How to tell if your child’s educational needs are being met at school

January 27, 2017 6.12am AEDT

As a new school year begins, your child will most likely have a new teacher. With a new teacher comes a new opportunity for your child to learn the academic and personal skills important for school - and beyond.

From an educational psychology perspective, there are lots of ways teachers greatly influence children’s outcomes. These include:

1. Motivation and engagement
2. Buoyancy, resilience, and adaptability
3. Personal best goals
4. Load reduction instruction (not overloading a child with work)
5. Interpersonal relationships and social support

These can also be used to help parents consider how their child’s educational needs are being met at school.
Motivation and engagement

The teacher’s capacity to motivate and engage the class is vital to your child’s journey this year.

“Motivation” refers to children’s inclination, interest, energy and drive to learn, work effectively, and achieve their academic potential.

“Engagement” is the behaviour that accompanies this inclination and energy.

The Motivation and Engagement Wheel is a useful way to understand your child’s motivation and engagement.

The Wheel comprises positive motivation (self-belief, valuing of school, learning focus), positive engagement (planning, task management, persistence), negative motivation (anxiety, fear of failure, low control), and negative engagement (self-sabotage, disengagement).

It can be helpful in identifying and sustaining specific motivational strengths in your child. It can also be used to target specific areas that might need further assistance.

The teacher’s task is to help support your child’s positive motivation and reduce your child’s negative motivation.
Resilience and adaptability

In this coming year, your child will experience academic setback, difficulty, and adversity. How your child deals with academic adversity is very important.

How the teacher helps your child work through this adversity is also very important.

Research has identified two types of academic adversity.

The first type is low-level or everyday adversity. All children experience this. Examples include struggling to complete difficult schoolwork, receiving a disappointing result, imminent deadlines, and clashing due dates.

The second type of academic adversity is major adversity. Fewer children will experience this. Examples include poor physical and/or mental health, learning difficulties or disabilities, chronic failure, bullying, suspension or expulsion, changing schools or repeating a grade.

A third factor in this area is the capacity to navigate uncertainty, change, variability, novelty, and transition.

During any school day, your child will change tasks and lessons, interact with different teachers and school staff, work with different groups of students, and frequently experience new or changing conditions.

Children need to be able to adapt to help them deal with these sorts of changes, transitions, and uncertainties.

Personal best goals

There is growing awareness of the limits of comparative approaches to assessing students. Assessment along these lines typically involves ranking and comparing your child with other children.

There is useful information in knowing how your child is travelling compared to other children - but it tends to be narrow information and gives little insight into some important aspects of your child’s development.

Research shows it is beneficial to benchmark a student against him/herself (not just against other students). This is called a growth approach to academic development. Here, children are assessed against their previous best performance or efforts.

There are great motivational and achievement benefits in encouraging a student to compete with him/herself. Teachers play a major role in the goals students set. With teacher and parental support, personal best goals might be something for your child to consider this year.
Load reduction instruction

In the initial stages of learning any new skill or knowledge, your child is a novice. Because of this, it is important not to overload them in these early learning stages.

Reducing the load on your child involves teaching that is structured, organised in small and manageable tasks, provides clear examples, and is explicit in the content to be learned.

It also involves practice and repetition, so that key skills and knowledge can be readily implemented or recalled when needed.

This approach is called "load reduction instruction" and describes ways the teacher can reduce the load on your child in the initial stages of learning.

As your child develops these skills and knowledge, the teacher then moves onto more open-ended and guided discovery learning approaches.

Both explicit and discovery approaches are critical to your child’s academic development. It is the sequencing of these that is really important to get right. With core skills and knowledge under your child’s belt, high quality discovery learning then follows.

Interpersonal relationships and social support

The extent to which your child will be receptive to the teacher’s efforts I have described here will depend on the relationship the teacher builds with your child.

There are three key relationships that help children learn:

1. The interpersonal relationship – the extent to which the teacher is interested in, helps, and encourages your child.

2. The substantive relationship – the extent to which your child relates to and is interested in the content of what is being taught.

3. The pedagogical relationship – the extent to which your child relates to the methods the teacher uses to teach.

Parents/carers also share a substantial part of the responsibility – and children are greatly assisted when parents/carers and the teachers are on the same page.

Source:  Click here to go to the website
I had a lovely duty in the hall today and approached a big group of girls who were playing together and in flow. I praised how they were building positive relationships and left them to keep playing. A few minutes later, they asked me to see what they were doing....... When I approached them, they were lined up and asked me to take a photo of them. It made me so happy seeing so many happy children!

In kindness
Rita Giannakakis
Year 6/7 Teacher
Schools of Fish Program

As mentioned in our last newsletter for 2016 we will be establishing our own Fish Farm and Aquaponic Garden. We can’t do this without your help. We have listed below some resources we require. If you can help with anything on the list please bring to the front office. Thanks in anticipation. What an exciting project for our students and community.

Requirements/ Equipment

Water Quality

Pura Tap
6 -10 marine grade buckets
20 x 2 litre juice bottles (Golden Circle)
Ki Bio Media 2 L or a box full of foam noodles
Ph testing kit
Nitrate testing kit
Nitrite testing kit
2 L tap conditioner
Fish Aquarium all sizes

Water infrastructure

High pressure pvc off cuts or lengths
High pressure pvc fittings 90 degree bends
Both 19m and 15 m
Rubber one way grommet
4 ¾ spa valves

Electrical Systems

Air pumps (large capacity ) aquarium category
Air pumps (smaller capacity ) aquarium category
Back up energy systems (back up battery system for water pump in case of power failure)
Arduino ( computer plug sensor )
Lights 3 UV lights

Plant materials

Coriander seed packets and other herb varieties
Growing containers
IBC’s or HDPE tubs 200 ltr x20
Media Blue metal or volcanic stone / scoria

Wooden pallets (strong) X 10

DONATIONS
Can be made directly to the shed on Monday’s and Tuesday’s preferably OR in the office on any other day.
**NEWSLETTER FRIDAY 17TH**

If you have not completed the **2017 Fee Schedule** please download from the website [http://www.holyfamily.catholic.edu.au/files/2016/08/Fee-Schedule-2017-v4-Final-p2owsp.pdf](http://www.holyfamily.catholic.edu.au/files/2016/08/Fee-Schedule-2017-v4-Final-p2owsp.pdf) or pick one up from the office as soon as possible. *An example of the 2nd page is below.* If you have selected School Card level please ensure you have completed the **Form A for School Card** as well.

**REMEMBER:** 5% discount on full year's fees if paid by COB Tuesday 28th February

### 2017 Full Year Fees Schedule per Child

#### LEVEL 1
Families whose combined gross income is greater than $55,000 per year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year Level</th>
<th>1st Child</th>
<th>+ 2nd Child</th>
<th>+ 3rd Child</th>
<th>+ 4th Child</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2-7 (Yearly)</td>
<td>$2,850.00</td>
<td>$1,995.00</td>
<td>$1,725.00</td>
<td>$285.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R-1 (Yearly)</td>
<td>$2,400.00</td>
<td>$1,680.00</td>
<td>$1,440.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TOTAL $___________ less 5% early payment discount (if applicable)

#### LEVEL 2
Families whose combined gross income is greater than $45,000 and less than $55,000 per year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year Level</th>
<th>1st Child</th>
<th>+ 2nd Child</th>
<th>+ 3rd Child</th>
<th>+ 4th Child</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2-7 (Yearly)</td>
<td>$2,620.00</td>
<td>$1,834.00</td>
<td>$1,587.00</td>
<td>$285.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R-1 (Yearly)</td>
<td>$2,170.00</td>
<td>$1,519.00</td>
<td>$1,302.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TOTAL $___________ less 5% early payment discount (if applicable)

#### LEVEL 3
Families whose combined gross income is greater than the school card threshold and less than $45,000 per year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year Level</th>
<th>1st Child</th>
<th>+ 2nd Child</th>
<th>+ 3rd Child</th>
<th>+ 4th Child</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2-7 (Yearly)</td>
<td>$2,370.00</td>
<td>$1,659.00</td>
<td>$1,437.00</td>
<td>$285.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R-1 (Yearly)</td>
<td>$1,920.00</td>
<td>$1,344.00</td>
<td>$1,152.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TOTAL $___________ less 5% early payment discount (if applicable)

#### SCHOOL CARD LEVEL
Families approved under the School Card Scheme.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year Level</th>
<th>1st Child</th>
<th>+ 2nd Child</th>
<th>+ 3rd Child</th>
<th>+ 4th Child</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2-7 (Yearly)</td>
<td>$2,000.00</td>
<td>$1,400.00</td>
<td>$1,160.00</td>
<td>$200.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R-1 (Yearly)</td>
<td>$1,600.00</td>
<td>$1,120.00</td>
<td>$960.00</td>
<td>$0.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TOTAL $___________ less 5% early payment discount (if applicable)

*School Fees will be invoiced by term

Centrelink
Please collect your annual School Card Credit application form from the front office, early December or download from the website.

**Items NOT included in Tuition Fees:**
- Year 7 Camp: $210
- Year 5/6 Camp: $190
- Year 3/4 Sleepover: $20
- Year 7 Jumper: $65

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2017
QKR App

The QKR App is an easy, user friendly App which can be used for:

- Canteen orders;
- OSHC;
- Uniform;
- Other School Payments.

You can pre-order lunches for your children up to 1-2 weeks in advance. Uniform items can be purchased and delivered to your child or held in front office for collection. Other school payments include carnivals, camps and ICAS.

Your credit card is required for purchases. No extra charges are incurred using the App other than what you would normally via your bank. The App is very safe and secure.

Any further enquiries or help needed please speak with staff from our front office.

Seasons for Growth

We are starting another program of “Seasons for Growth” this year. This is a program for children who are dealing with changes in their lives. It is a supportive group with others who have had changes in their lives. The course likens change with the Seasons and helps students identify and draw on their own strengths. The group will meet weekly during school time for 9 weeks (50 minutes each session). If you would like your child to be part of this program please contact your child’s teacher or Emma Finos.

For further information about the course please contact Emma Finos at the school.

Kind regards

Emma Finos
8250 6616

Emma.finos@holyfamily.catholic.edu.au
Playgroup at Holy Family Catholic School

Come and join us!

Holy Family now offers playgroup for children aged from 0-5 years old. Our playgroup is based on the principles of continuity, transition and pathways for children and their families. Stay and spend the morning with your little one watching them play and learn and build friendships and social skills in a safe and supported environment.

Who: Everyone is welcome to join playgroup, you don’t need to have children attending the school.

When: Thursday mornings 9:00am - 11:00am

Where: Holy Family OSHC room

What to bring: Water, hat, fruit and a gold coin donation

For enquiries and bookings call 8250 6616 or email kelly.johnston@holyfamily.catholic.edu.au
Laptop Workshop
Wednesday 22nd February: 9am

Want to know more about how to use your child’s laptop? Then please join us for an informal and practical workshop covering areas such as:

- How to save and retrieve documents
- How to upload and access photos
- Ideas of games and programs available on the laptop.

Your child/children are more than welcome to join for the session so we can all learn from each other. There is no cost involved.

When: Wednesday 22nd Feb (week 4) 9:00am - 10:30am
Where: Holy Family OSHC room
What to bring: You and your child and your child’s laptop.

Enquiries and bookings: 8250 6616 / emma.fin@holyfamily.catholic.edu.au
Saint Valentine
On Tuesday, February 14th, we celebrated Saint Valentine’s feast day. I think what is important to note that this day is not just about flowers, chocolates and cards but who this day is named after and why he became a Saint.

Valentine was a holy priest in Rome, who, with his family, assisted the Christians imprisoned under Claudius 11. He was apprehended, and sent by the emperor to the prefect of Rome, who tried to make him renounce his faith. When he refused he sentenced him to death. The charges were for marrying couples and aiding persecuted Christians. Saint Valentine was executed on February 14, about the year 270. Pope Julius I is said to have built a church near Ponte Mole to his memory.

A famous story about Saint Valentine was when he was on house arrest with Judge Asterius. While discussing religion and faith with the Judge, Valentine pledged the validity of Jesus. The judge immediately put Valentine and his faith to the test.

St. Valentine was presented with the judge's blind daughter and told to restore her sight. If he succeeded, the judge vowed to do anything for Valentine. Placing his hands onto her eyes, Valentine restored the child's vision.

Judge Asterius was humbled and obeyed Valentine's requests. Asterius broke all the idols around his house, fasted for three days and became baptized, along with his family and entire 44-member household. The now faithful judge then freed all of his Christian inmates.

Saint Valentine is the Patron Saint of affianced couples, beekeepers, engaged couples, epilepsy, fainting, greetings, happy marriages, love, lovers, plague, travellers and young people. He is represented in pictures with birds and roses.

Louise Svensdotter
Is the Sacramental Co-ordinator with the Salisbury Parish working with Holy Family and across our other two parish schools, Thomas More and Saint Augustine’s. Louise is working with students towards celebrating the sacraments of Reconciliation, Confirmation and Eucharist.

Louise is available to speak to parents every Thursday from 8.50 in the courtyard about the Sacramental Program.

Masses, Morning Prayer and Liturgy

Mass, Thursday, February 23rd 11.30am 5/6DE & 5/6IB
Liturgy, Thursday, February 23rd 3/4 MJ 9am classroom.
Morning Prayer February 21st, 9am classroom

Salisbury Weekday Parish Mass Times
All Masses Saint Augustine’s Church, Commercial Road Salisbury
Tuesday, Wednesday, & Thursday - 8:00am
Friday - 9.30am

SUNDAY MARCH 26TH at 2.00 P.M.
St. Joseph’s Old Scholars Annual Mass at Kensington Convent Chapel. Priest is Father Kevin Taylor. Devonshire Afternoon Tea will follow ($5). Invitation for ALL former teachers/students (male and female) from ANY Josephite School/College here or interstate to attend.
Would **YOU** like to learn an instrument?

If your child is in year 1 or above, then they are able to learn an instrument at school. Information and enrolment booklets are available now: you can pick up a copy from the school office, Music teacher or Music blog. Please return them as quickly as possible as instrumental teachers have already begun planning their timetables and waiting lists may apply. **Please note that continuing instrumental students still need to complete an enrollment form for this year.**

You may like to choose one of the following - violin, recorder, drums, singing, flute (subject to enrolment numbers), saxophone, classical guitar, piano or keyboard. (Year ones may only choose from the instruments in bold.)

This is the main intake for the year. Don’t miss out on giving your child the gift of music. Enrol now!
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date/Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PARENT INFORMATION EVENINGS</td>
<td>Monday 6th February and Tuesday 7th February (check with your teacher for specific day)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAPTOP WORKSHOP</td>
<td>Wednesday 22nd February - OSHC Room (see flyer)</td>
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<tr>
<td>SHROVE TUESDAY</td>
<td>Tuesday 28th February</td>
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<tr>
<td>5% DISCOUNT ON FEES CUTOFF</td>
<td>Tuesday 28th February (end of day) - last chance for 5% discount on your full year’s fees</td>
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<tr>
<td>ASH WEDNESDAY</td>
<td>Wednesday 1st March</td>
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<tr>
<td>PUBLIC HOLIDAY (Adelaide Cup)</td>
<td>Monday 13th March</td>
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<tr>
<td>PARENT / TEACHER INTERVIEWS</td>
<td>Monday 3rd April to Thursday 6th April</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPORTS DAY</td>
<td>Friday 31st March 2017 - 12pm to 4pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LAST DAY OF TERM 1</td>
<td>Thursday 13th April</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PUBLIC HOLIDAY (Good Friday)</td>
<td>Friday 14th April - NO SCHOOL</td>
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</table>

**SAVE THE DATE**

**SPORTS DAY**

Friday 31st March
## Assemblies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term 1</th>
<th>Presenting</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 1</strong></td>
<td>Leaders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 2</strong></td>
<td>5/6DE and 5/6IB</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Week 3</strong></td>
<td>5/6PN and 5/6E</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Week 4</strong></td>
<td>3/4MJ and 3/4KC</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Week 5</strong></td>
<td>3/4CM and 3/4BH</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Week 6</strong></td>
<td>6/7RG and 6/7JW</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Week 7</strong></td>
<td>6/7NB and 5/6MN</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Week 8</strong></td>
<td>Harmony Day Assembly</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Week 9</strong></td>
<td>Sports Day</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Week 10</strong></td>
<td>5/6PA and 3/4DP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 11</strong></td>
<td>Good Friday</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term 2</th>
<th>Presenting</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 1</strong></td>
<td>Leaders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 2</strong></td>
<td>2RS and 2JH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 3</strong></td>
<td>2MP and 2DH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 4</strong></td>
<td>R/1JM and R/1RV</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Week 5</strong></td>
<td>Mission Week</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Week 6</strong></td>
<td>R/1GC and R/1TB</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Week 7</strong></td>
<td>R/1AM and R/1MS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 8</strong></td>
<td>3/4MC and 3/4SM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 9</strong></td>
<td>R/1EC and R/1MR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Week 10</strong></td>
<td>Music</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
***** SAFETY *****

PEDESTRIAN CROSSING: Can you please ensure that you cross the road using the pedestrian crossing. We have seen some students and parents running across the road in-between traffic. This is extremely dangerous when there are cars driving in all directions and visibility is poor. Please set the right example and use the pedestrian crossing which is supervised by staff.

CAR PARK: Our car parks are set up with one way in and one way out. Please enter the carpark via the entrance near the roundabout. DO NOT do a right hand turn from Shepherdson Road into the carpark (as shown on the map). This blocks the traffic and creates congestion, frustration and danger. It is easier and quicker to drive down to the roundabout, go around and then enter the car park using the slip lane.

DROP OFF ZONE: When entering the car park to use the drop off zone please make sure you use both sides of the car park (as shown by the yellow lines). This will keep the traffic off the road and alleviate congestion on Shepherdson and Martins Roads. If you are in the front side of the car park please allow cars from the far side to merge into your lane for the Drop Off Zone. Let’s work together as a Community and help keep everyone safe.

LAPTOP CHARGERS

Laptop Chargers are NOT to be brought to school. All students should be charging their laptop at home each night. This is for safety reasons and ensuring the charger stays in good condition.

MEDICATION

It is school policy for all medication to be kept in the sick room (located near student reception). A medication plan signed by your doctor should also be provided for any medication required by a student throughout the day whether long term or short term. This includes but not limited to paracetamol, ibuprofen and antibiotics. This policy is enforced to ensure your child takes the correct dosage at the correct time which is logged by our staff and to prevent other students from taking medication which could be harmful. A medication plan is also required for any child that may be incontinent. Your assistance and understanding on this matter is greatly appreciated.
February 7, 2017
17/168

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

On behalf of Archbishop Wilson and myself, I write to you as the final hearing involving the Catholic Church at the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse unfolds.

Our first thoughts go to those who are the victims and survivors of child sexual abuse. The terrible memories of abuse at the hands of priests and religious they trusted impact their lives forever, and through these weeks those memories will once again be re-lived. There are no words sufficient to express our sorrow for the suffering those children experienced within our Church. We also recognise and feel deep sorrow for the ongoing suffering of parents, families, friends and partners of those who were abused.

To the extent that I can, I offer my apology on behalf of the Catholic Church to all those who suffered directly or indirectly as a result of abuse within the Church. As Pope Francis said recently, ‘it is a sin that shames us’.

I promise we will leave no stone unturned in our effort to make our Church in Adelaide safe for children, and to ensure that they will never be at risk of abuse in the future.

I know that this is also a difficult time for all of you in the Church who share the sorrow, outrage and shame of hurt to children. The evidence presented during the Royal Commission hearings will be distressing and confronting. The Royal Commission’s statistics and analysis of the extent of abuse will be made public as the Royal Commission reviews the evidence it has already received and seeks to understand why and how this tragedy has occurred.

Many of our Bishops and other Catholic leaders will appear before the Royal Commission to explain how the Church has sought to change the culture that allowed abuse occur and to continue, and to put in place new policies, structures and protections to safeguard children and vulnerable persons.

Pope Francis has urged the whole Church to, ‘find the courage needed to take all necessary measures and to protect in every way the lives of our children, so that such crimes may never be repeated’. In the Archdiocese of Adelaide we have pursued these safeguarding goals with energy and vigour for the last 15 years, building on the procedures that were authorised by the Bishops and Religious Leaders in 1996. We are fully committed to the Holy Father’s call for Zero Tolerance on Child Sexual Abuse when he said: “Let us find the courage needed to take all necessary measures and to protect in every way the lives of our children, so that such crimes may never be repeated.”

Throughout the coming weeks, I ask you to join with me in prayer as we turn to Jesus, who in his own life expressed such protective tenderness towards children. Let us pray that all children everywhere may experience that same protective respect and tenderness from us. This has been a terrible darkness, let us choose to be light for all, especially children and all who are vulnerable.

With fraternal greetings in Christ who is our light,

[Signature]

Rev Fr Philip Marshall
Vicar General

Catholic Diocesan Centre, 39 Wakefield Street, Adelaide SA 5000
GPO Box 1364, Adelaide SA 5001 | (08) 8210 8210 | www.adelaide.catholic.org.au
Would you like to take your participation in your child’s education to the next level?  
Join the Federation Ambassador Network

Supporting parents to be actively involved in their children’s learning and schooling and finding out what issues are important to parents is core to what the Federation of Catholic School Parent Communities does but we need your help by becoming a Federation Ambassador.

What is a Federation Ambassador?
A Federation Ambassador is a person who will promote the role of the Federation and encourage parents within their school community to Be Informed, Be Connected and Be Heard through the Federation’s Facebook page, Twitter feed, surveys and events.

What would a Federation Ambassador have to do?
The Federation Ambassador role is not onerous. We’d like you to regularly check your emails and if there is one from us, liaise with your school’s Principal or key administrative support staff to ensure the information is passed on to families via the school’s usual communication channels.

Ambassadors receive an induction package and will receive an invitation to attend the Federation’s 50th Anniversary celebration on 12th May 2017.

Who can become a Federation Ambassador?
Anyone can become a Federation Ambassador. You don’t have to be someone who is on the Board or involved with the P&F. The ideal Ambassador should have ready access to e-mail and be able to liaise directly with the Principal or key administrative support staff to ensure information is passed on to families via the school’s usual communication channels.

How much time would it take to be a Federation Ambassador?
If you became your school’s Ambassador we would want you to regularly check your emails and if there is one from us, liaise with your Principal or key administrative support staff to ensure the information is passed on to families via the school’s usual communication channels. We plan to send you an email every few weeks.

How do I find out more information about becoming a Federation Ambassador?
It’s easy! Check out our website www.parentfederation.catholic.edu.au/be-connected/ambassadors or contact the Federation’s Communications Officer, Leanne De Young on ☎ 83016686 or fedadmin@cesa.catholic.edu.au.
Are you the parent of a teen or pre-teen? Come and join us or watch our live webcast.

Find out:

• what’s going on in your child’s brain
• what it means to be a teenager in a digital world
• how best to communicate and what to do when things get tough
• what parenting style works best.

Presented by Kirrilie Smout, an Adelaide psychologist working with children, teens and their parents

Register to attend in person or view the live webcast at:

Online: http://parentingsa.eventbrite.com.au
Phone: 8303 1660
Email: health.parentingsa@health.sa.gov.au

Wednesday 22 March
When: 7.00 - 9.00pm
Where: Riverbank Room
Adelaide Convention Centre
North Terrace, Adelaide

This seminar is designed for an adult audience.

Helping parents be their best
Dear parishioners,

The Spectrum of Domestic Violence

Sadly, we are often reminded of the many criminal acts of domestic violence in marriage or other relationships. Often – though not always – these are by men to women. Sometimes women are violent to men, sometimes adults are violent to children, sometimes children to their parents.

Yet these criminal acts should not blind us to the fact that violence exists along a spectrum, of which physical violence is the extreme. Along the spectrum are many other kinds of violent behaviour. Perhaps the most common is violent language. In my experience, before there is physical violence, there is a history – perhaps a long history going back to childhood – of violent language.

As Catholic Christians, we are concerned not only with criminal acts, but also with the whole range of moral behaviour. When we live in Christ, we understand that vile words can hurt, just as vile physical actions can hurt. And vile words can create an environment where it is only a small step to provoke violent physical action. A malicious person can deliberately use language to provoke a physical response.

The wisdom books of our Old Testament remind us that our way of speaking can be destructive: “Many have fallen by the edge of the sword, but many more have fallen by the tongue” (Si 28:22). St Peter calls us to a gentler way: “Love the brothers, have compassion and be self-effacing. Never repay one wrong with another, or one abusive words with another; instead, repay with a blessing.” (1 Pet 3:9) A blessing can break the cycle of violence which so often begins in vile language and ends in physical violence.

All of us, men and women, parents and children, are called to love one another. Abusive words and abusive actions are far from the path of love. We can seek the intercession of St Monica, the mother of St Augustine, who endured physical violence in her marriage. The Roman culture in which Monica and Patricius lived permitted his violence: but we should never give in to something wrong just because it is part of the local culture. We can reject the spectrum of violence, from the simplest of abusive words to the most dangerous of abusive action. For ourselves and for our families, hold fast to the virtues!

Fr Roderick [16 February 2017]
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Vikings Junior Rugby Union Club

‘Come and Try Day’

When: Saturday 25th February
Time: 10am - 12pm
Where: Port Adelaide Rugby Club
      Baynes Place, Port Adelaide

A fun session for girls and boys 5-16 years. Come and join us for a free introduction to rugby union, followed by a BBQ lunch.

Info & Enquiries: Stacey 0414 361 725
                 juniorvikings@bigpond.com
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A Sprinkle of Magic | The Rastelli Tent
Street Performers | Buskers | Vintage Gaming Room
Food and Market Stalls

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FAMILY FUN DAY
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An Invitation...

Thomas More College are currently accepting enrolments for Year 7 & 8 in 2019 and limited Year 8 placements for 2018. We invite you and your family to meet with our Principal, Andrew Balkwill, to discover how we challenge our students to Learn More, Live More and Be More.

We welcome you and your child/children to attend a school tour with us on one of the following 2017 dates:

- Saturday 25 February, 9:15am
- Friday 10 March at 9:15am
- Saturday 13 May at 9:15am
- Monday 15 May at 9:15am

If you would like to book a place on our tour, please visit our website tmc.catholic.edu.au ‘Book a Tour’ or for any queries, call Jane Sivilour at the College on 8182 2600.