Prayer for Parents

Help me in my divine task of parenthood.
Help me to see my children’s problems through their eyes;
Keep ever before me my own childhood so that I will not expect too much
Give me the patience of the silent stars;
Give me a sense of humour.
Help me to win them through love instead of compelling them through fear;
Help me to teach them that every home is an altar and that every wish is a prayer.
Help me to live my own life above doubt and scepticism;
Help me to radiate faith in the basic goodness of life;
Help me to keep the ideals of youth aglow in my own life.
Give me the strong hand for guidance when youth falters and would turn back;
Help me to teach them to love bravely and to meet defeat courageously;
Help me to teach them that a man’s real character is what he is, alone with himself in the dark.
Help me to teach them that the value of their lives will be measured by the service they give.
Help me to teach them that true happiness is found, not in things, but in the unfolding of their minds and their souls.
Help me to make my life go on in theirs, bigger, finer, nobler than I ever dared to be. Amen

DATES TO REMEMBER......

Monday 13th Feb       PRIMARY Parent Grade Information Night (refer page 2 for times)
Wednesday 15th Feb    INFANTS Parent Grade Information Night (refer page 2 for times)
Friday 17th February  St Ed’s Swimming Carnival for Yrs 3-6 & selected Yr 2 students, 9.30-2.00pm, City Pool, Kable Ave
Wednesday 22nd Feb    St Ed’s School Board & Parent Association AGM, 7.00pm Primary Library
Thursday 23rd Feb     Diocesan Swimming Carnival, Moree
Sunday 26th Feb       Family Mass Years 2 & 5, 9.00am MHO Church
Tuesday 28th Feb      Year 2 Liturgy, 11.40am Infants’ Hall
Monday 27th Feb - Fri 3rd March Infants & Primary Parent/Teacher Interviews
Wed 1st March        Ash Wednesday Mass (K-6), 10.00am MHO Church
Saturday 4th March   McCarthy Catholic College Open Day, 11.00am - 1.00pm
Mon 6th-Fri 10th March Catholic Schools’ Week
Tuesday 14th March    Year 1 Liturgy, 11.40am Infants’ Hall
Tuesday 21st March   Kinder Liturgy, 11.40am Infants’ Hall
Wed 29th March       Yr 2 Sacrament Confession, 4.00pm
Sunday 2nd April     Family Mass Years 1 & 4, 9.00am MHO Church
Friday 7th April     Last day of Term 1

VALUE OF THE WEEK: “RESPECT”
Parent/Teacher Interviews
In Week 6 (27th Feb - 3rd March) both Infants and Primary parents will have the opportunity for an individual interview with your child’s class teacher. At our Parent Grade Information Nights this week (dates shown above), you will have the opportunity to indicate your preferred time slot for the parent/teacher interviews in Week 6, so first in best dressed. A note will go home to parents regarding the remaining interview timeslots. We have scheduled these interviews early in the school year so parents have the opportunity to share valuable information about their children with class teachers and we strongly encourage all parents to attend.

St Edward’s Homework Survey Results
After surveying the students (Years 3 - 6), teachers and parents, the results were collated and are shown below. Staff analysed the data and updated our current homework policy. We will inform you of the changes made at the Information Evenings this week. Thank you for taking the time to voice your ideas.

STUDENTS

Do you want to complete homework? (327 responses)

- Yes: 192 (58.7%)
- No: 150 (45.9%)

Do you like Eddies Endeavours? (327 responses)

- Yes: 192 (58.7%)
- No: 150 (45.9%)
Do you want your child to complete homework?

- Yes: 81.7%
- No: 18.3%

Do you like Eddies Endeavours?

- Yes: 66.4%
- No: 33.6%

Do you want your class to complete homework? (22 responses)

- YES: 72.7%
- NO: 27.3%
Annual General Meeting - St Ed's School Board & Parent Association

I ask our school community to support our School’s Parent Association by attending the monthly meetings or volunteering your time for various activities held during 2017. The Parent Association do an outstanding job to raise funds to help with the education of each and every student. The next meeting, the AGM, will be held on **Wednesday 22nd February 2017 at 7.00pm in the Primary Library.** Several positions will become vacant on the School Board and the Parent Association. If you would like to nominate for a position, or you know of someone who would like to be nominated on the School Board, please collect a Nomination Form from either school office. The closing date for School Board nominations is Tuesday 21st February at 9.00am. Parent Association nominations will be accepted on the night. All teaching staff will be in attendance. Parents and carers are invited to attend and your input valued.

St Ed's Swimming Carnival – Primary students (Yrs 3-6) & selected Yr 2 students

Once again our annual School Swimming Carnival is being held during the school day, in place of our traditional Twilight Carnival. The Carnival will be for all PRIMARY students (Yr 3 – 6) and any Year 2 student who is 8 years old, or turning 8 in 2017, and able to swim 50m. **It will be held this Friday 17th February at Tamworth City Pool (Kable Avenue) commencing at 9.30am and finishing at 2.00pm.** PLEASE NOTE the Swimming Carnival is part of our school sports program and ALL Primary aged children are expected to be there. Thank you to our families who have returned their child’s Permission Note and Parental Swimming Ability Note. If you have not done so, we ask you to please complete and return promptly. Mrs Hardaker will also be very appreciative of any parent helpers who are able to assist at the Swimming Carnival.

URGENT - Unidentified Fee Payments

**STILL UNCLAIMED** - A fee payment of $552 has recently been deposited to the School Bank Account with the Reference 'St Edward's School'. When paying fees by Bank Transfer we ask that the reference be your 4 digit Account No. which is found to the right of the statement under the date, followed by the surname of the fee payer e.g. '9999Smith'. Should you believe the above payment is yours, please see either school office and provide a copy of the bank confirmation so we can receipt your account accordingly.
A Primary School Activity Levy payment ($55) has also been deposited into our school’s account on Thursday 9th February via NAB bank transfer, with a reference of “school fees”. If you have made this deposit, we ask you to please contact Mrs Richards at the Primary Office on 6765 7847 so this amount can marked as paid against your child’s name.

**Sport & School Activity Levy**
The introduction of our new School Activity Levy has been very well received by our St Ed’s community and it is wonderful to see so many parents using the Qkr! App to make payment. A huge thank you to the families who have now paid the Levy. A reminder that this Levy covers the cost of sport and extracurricular activities that ALL students participate in (ie. School Cross Country, Gymnastics, Tennis, Eisteddfod, Swimming & Athletics Carnival, buses between Campuses). The introduction of this new Levy saves parents having to find small amounts of cash throughout the year and is great time saver for our teaching staff by not having to count and record cash.

**The Primary Levy is $55 per child and the Infants Levy is $35 per child, with payment due by Friday 24th February.** Thank you.

**Cars at the INFANTS**

PLEASE NOTE that Council Parking Rangers are doing regular patrols of all schools in the Tamworth area and were spotted at the Infants Campus issuing hefty parking fines to parents of our school who were not following the correct procedures for parking in and around our school.

**PARENTS HAVE AGAIN BEEN WITNESSED PARKING UP ON THE COUNCIL PARK AREA AT THE REAR OF THE INFANTS CAMPUS.** This practise is illegal and also endangers the safety of the general public and parents and students using this area. We realise the Infants Pick Up area is extremely busy in the morning and afternoon but please abide by the rules and park in the spaces provided and not up on the parkland area. We appreciate your help in these important safety matters.

**Student Information**
Student Verification Contact Forms went home to all families a few weeks ago. We ask that you complete any changes and return to either school office ASAP so your child’s details can be updated accordingly. We request that ALL forms are returned, even if all information shown is correct. Thank you for your assistance.

**Qkr! THE EXCITING NEW SCHOOL APP!!**
We would like to remind our families that St Ed’s has Qkr! This mobile App allows fast and easy payments with the flexibility to pay your School Fees, Activity Levy and Excursion money wherever and whenever you like. Simply download the Qkr! App from the app store (iPhone) or Google Play (Android). Register your child’s details on the App and away you go!! It’s so simple and saves you, your child’s teacher and admin staff so much time counting and sorting money for those various miscellaneous payments.
SCHOOL DRIVE SUBSIDY - NSW Government - Transport for NSW
If you live a long way from public transport and need to drive a student to a public transport pick up point or to school, you may be able to get financial assistance.
The School Drive Subsidy provides eligible parents and guardians twice-yearly payments to help cover some of the expenses of getting children to school.
To find out if you’re eligible, and to apply online, visit www.transport.nsw.gov.au/schooldrive or call 131 500.

WANTED – Clothing Pool Items
Did you have a sort through your children’s school uniforms during the holidays and have unwanted items? If so, both the Infants and Primary Clothing Pools are in need of good quality second hand items, particularly girls summer tunics. Items can be donated or sold on consignment with 20% commission taken by the school.

Piano & Guitar Lessons at St Ed's
Todd Power is accepting students at St Edward’s School for one-on-one piano tuition. He teaches students of all ages, from beginner to advanced students, at the Tamworth Regional Conservatorium of Music. Weekly piano lessons are also held at both the Primary (Tuesday) and Infants Campus (Monday), and are available in blocks of 20 or 30 minutes.
Mr James Craswell, also from the Conservatorium, teaches guitar for Primary students only (Wednesday).
What a time saver it is for parents because these tutors come direct to St Ed’s for lessons during school time, so we ask that you please support them! Enrolment forms are available from the Tamworth Regional Conservatorium Website or from either school office. For more information, please email admin@tamworthregionalconservatorium.com.au or call the Conservatorium Office on 6766 6911.

Student Health – School Sores (Impetigo)
There has been a reported case of School Sores from a family at the Infants’ Campus. Impetigo, sometimes called "school sores" is an infection of the skin with bacteria. Your family doctor should be consulted and usually an antibiotic is prescribed. Impetigo occurs in two forms, blistering and crusted. The condition is not usually painful but can be very itchy. Impetigo is very easy to catch from other people. If the sores are being treated and are properly covered by a clean dressing, children are allowed to attend school. If they are not covered and are on exposed parts of the body such as scalp, hands or legs, exclusion is necessary until sores have healed. Bathing the blisters with salty water will also help to dry them out.

McCarthy Catholic College OPEN DAY
An Open Day will be held at McCarthy Catholic College on Saturday 4th March 2017. Group tours will be conducted from 11.00am until 1.00pm. For more information, please contact 67610 800.

Tamworth Train Station Works
Our school has been advised that the Tamworth Railway Station school bus-bay area is now undergoing re-paving and other various works. This will continue for approximately another 5 weeks. During this time students will not have access to seating and shade as they usually would. We have been told that there is a large shady tree in the park area, but permanent shade areas will be fenced off whilst works are completed. Any questions, please contact Tamworth Railway direct on 6701 9054.
SHERPA KIDS ST EDWARD’S

Before, After & Vacation Care
Primary & Infants Campus

Monday to Friday 7.00am – 6.00pm
Breakfast & Afternoon Tea Included
This Week’s Theme: **Pokemon Peeps**

Our excursion to Kootingal Laser Tag in the Christmas Holidays was fantastic!

**NEW ENROLMENTS WELCOME**

Most Parents pay between $4.60 and $9 per day. Please contact us for a quote.

For enquiries call or email Angie – 0481 373 883
New Enrolments please contact William – 0410 841 628
stedwardstamworth@sherpa-kids.com.au
### ST EDWARD’S SCHOOL ASSEMBLY AWARDS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Student of the Week</th>
<th>Curriculum Award (Mathematics)</th>
<th>Value of the Week Award (Integrity)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KBC</td>
<td>Electra West</td>
<td>Peyton Rust</td>
<td>William Mackay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KL</td>
<td>Siara Wolter</td>
<td>Cobie Rowling</td>
<td>Matilda Noble</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KP</td>
<td>Harrison Cooper</td>
<td>Cooper Jones</td>
<td>Monica Dau</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1H</td>
<td>Marlee Batty</td>
<td>Lilly Marshall</td>
<td>Paul Refalo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1P</td>
<td>Chelsea Smith</td>
<td>Maylen Jenner</td>
<td>Juah Kim</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1S</td>
<td>Isla Grills</td>
<td>Jacob Allen</td>
<td>Seth Orman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2A</td>
<td>Jake Saddler</td>
<td>Logan Jordan</td>
<td>Deegan Musgrave</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2B</td>
<td>Juliet Mettam</td>
<td>Noah Hull</td>
<td>Thomas Jefferys</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2P</td>
<td>Kody Sylvester</td>
<td>Riley Bellenger</td>
<td>Jaydah Russell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3G</td>
<td>Lilly Androutsos</td>
<td>Emma Newlan</td>
<td>Dylan Mihell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3L</td>
<td>Olivia Dau</td>
<td>Matthew Frost</td>
<td>Jessica Shiels</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3R</td>
<td>Charlie Cunningham</td>
<td>Jasmine Williamson</td>
<td>DeliKa Boney</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4C</td>
<td>Annabelle Stuart</td>
<td>C-Jay Marsh</td>
<td>Ryan Lu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4L</td>
<td>Cooper Cloake</td>
<td>Hannah Briley</td>
<td>Padraig Maher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4W</td>
<td>Cody Turner-Bourke</td>
<td>Sam Aitken</td>
<td>Zachary Whalan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5K</td>
<td>Kerwin Richards</td>
<td>Isabella Cooper</td>
<td>Jayde Elliott</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5S</td>
<td>Aiden Lee</td>
<td>Charlie Maloney</td>
<td>Vy Phung Tuong Ho</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5Q</td>
<td>Zoe Cosgrove</td>
<td>Tessa Thomson</td>
<td>Matthew Tocknell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6C</td>
<td>Georgia Sheppard</td>
<td>Noah Targett</td>
<td>Caleb Viertel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6M</td>
<td>Sophia Hardy</td>
<td>Jayden Scott</td>
<td>Sebastian Lawler</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6U</td>
<td>Zahn Larkham</td>
<td>Charlotte Collins</td>
<td>Evie Bower</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
HOUSE AWARD: Primary: Kennedy Green Infants: MacKillop Gold

PRIDE & PRESENTATION: Primary: 4L Infants: 2B

RESPECT RULES AWARD:
Primary: Congratulations to Bronson Crough (5S) for noticing that a job needed to be done and getting it done!
Infants: Congratulations to Wilson Maloney (KBC) for always responding to teacher’s instructions. Well done! Keep it up!!

CANTEEN ROSTER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Primary</th>
<th>Infants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tues 14th Feb</td>
<td>Jodie Fauchon</td>
<td>Nikki Bridge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 15th Feb</td>
<td>Kathy Smyth</td>
<td>Anna Jefferys</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Belinda Hayman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs 16th Feb</td>
<td>Amy Cooper</td>
<td>Raylene Mihell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Joyce Seymour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 17th Feb</td>
<td>Swimming</td>
<td>No Canteen due</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Carnival</td>
<td>Swimming Carnival</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 20th Feb</td>
<td>Carissa Smith</td>
<td>Carissa Smith</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Maryanne Maher</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CANTEEN NEWS
Parents PLEASE NOTE there will be NO INFANTS LUNCH ORDERS this Friday 17th February, due to the Swimming Carnival being held for Years 3 - 6 students (and selected Year 2 children who can swim 50m).
RE NEWS

Grade Mass (9.30am, Tuesday 14th Feb): Year 4

Years 2 & 5 Family Mass
Our first Family Mass is on Sunday 26th February at 9.00am. Bishop Michael Kennedy will be officiating the Mass. Please come along to gather as a School and Parish community.

First Confession Enrolment Masses
Thank you to the families of the children who attended the First Confession (Reconciliation) Enrolment Masses on the weekend. Please keep the children in your prayers as they prepare to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Children’s Liturgy
Each Sunday, at the 9.00am Mass, our Parish runs “Children’s Liturgy”. This involves gathering a small group of children and discussing the Gospels and how they relate to our own lives. Children have an opportunity to draw, pray and talk with each other in the crying room at the back of the church. All children are welcome.

Sally Clarke & Tess Lewis

Notes Home Today
1. 2017 NSW Premier’s Reading Challenge (all families)
Many parents feel uncomfortable with the firmer side of parenting. Invariably they use management techniques that increase their children’s dependence on them, including:

**Doing deals with kids**
“Jai, if you eat all your dinner, I’ll let you use my iPad for 10 minutes.”
If this is you, then you’ll need deep pockets, as kids will keep upping the ante all the time.

**Repeating yourself and raising the volume**
Kids are parent deaf by choice and habit. Going over the same old, same old and getting mad just reinforces their parent deafness.

**Using coercion**
The use of controlling language – “Do this now!” – doesn’t work with kids who like to be in control. They’ll fight you rather than cooperate.

If you struggle to get your kids to do as you say, it’s probably your non-verbals giving you away. That is, it’s less about what you say, but more about how you say it that makes a big difference. If you’re not getting cooperation, you’re probably managing like a dog, when you should be managing like a cat.

**Manage like a cat**
Here are six ways to manage like a cat that will get you more cooperation, but importantly make your kids less dependent on you.

1. **Manage yourself first**
Cats are self-contained and very controlled. So, when you bring some cat into your parenting, the first thing you need to do is to learn to manage your own reactions rather than over-react, repeat yourself and just plain yell. Start by stepping away from the stressful situation and taking some deep breaths to change your emotional state.

2. **Go low**
Rather than raise your voice to be heard, lower your voice. Raising our voice has the effect of making kids ignore us or argue with us. Kids will hear our vehemence but not the detail of our words. By lowering your voice children are more likely to hear you and take notice.

3. **Go near**
Recently I saw a father shout out for some help, but his two kids ignored his requests as they were watching TV. Rather than shout out his instructions again, he went into the TV room and quietly asks his kids for help. This time he makes a connection and they are far more receptive. Why was he successful? He moved into their proximal space (about an arm’s length away) and using a lower voice he got their cooperation.
4. Look away
Most people have been trained to make eye contact when they speak. My mother’s advice – “Look at people when you speak to them” – is still rattling around inside my brain. Non-verbal communications guru, Michael Grinder, advises parents and teachers to do the opposite; that is, look away from a child when they issue a command rather than look them in the eye. He argues that eye contact at the point of giving an instruction or laying out your expectation is an invitation to an argument. I agree. And it’s most valid when communicating with teenagers, who, due to the fact that their brain is being completely rewired, are likely to retreat to their reptilian brain when they feel under threat.

5. Let checklists, charts and rosters do the managing
Parents who develop independence in their kids manage predominantly in a visual way rather than rely on their language skills to influence, manage, cajole and persuade their children to behave better and be more responsible at home. In particular, most boys and all kids on the autism spectrum like the constancy and consistency when visual messages and reminders support and reinforce verbal communication. The use of checklists, charts and rosters are examples of managing visually.

6. Use consequences to teach responsibility
Those self-contained cats don’t spend a great deal of time talking to get their point across. Instead they use a consequence, which by definition is a reasonable, respectful and related (e.g. remove the meal when kids continually fight at the meal table) to reinforce their point and promote cooperative, responsible behaviour – which is necessary for independence.

Every family needs a cat because they provide safety, which is essential for children’s healthy development. Yet many parents feel uncomfortable with the firmer side of parenting. Cats make sure the family functions well and stays on track. So, if firmness is a challenge, I urge you to find your inner cat and put it to work at least some of the time. My guess is, your children will appreciate it.

By Michael Grose www.parentingideas.com.au

CURRICULUM HELPFUL LINKS FOR PARENTS
Success with Maths: TIPS FOR PARENTS
https://engagingmaths.co/2017/01/13/setting-your-child-up-for-success-with-maths-tips-for-parents/