In the Spirit of Partnership

A message from parents to teachers:

Families provide each child’s first, ongoing and most significant experience of learning.

We are actively engaged in our children’s learning and have been since the day they were born.

We hold high aspirations for our children as they grow and develop so from the start have identified clear objectives and goals for their learning.

Our ‘classrooms’ have been our homes, backyards, the local park, the family car, the shopping centre, the homes of our friends and family, playgroup, the local library – anywhere we are called upon to explain, show, guide, support or direct.

We may plan and implement our ‘teaching programs’ alone but often we jointly plan and ‘team teach’ with others – our partners, our siblings, our parents, our in-laws, our friends.

We identify mentors whom we look up to and from whom we seek guidance.

We are constantly observing, assessing, recording and reporting on our child’s progress. With this information we review our ‘teaching programs’ accordingly.

We are obsessed with self-evaluation and committed to ‘life-long’ and ‘life-wide’ learning. We actively seek and access ‘professional development’ regularly in the spirit of continuous improvement.

We seek and access resources and teaching ‘tools’ and co-opt community services to support us in our teaching role. This is particularly the case if we believe we do not possess the knowledge or experience required to teach a particular skill or ‘learning area’.

From the day our children start school, and throughout their schooling journey, we have not handed over this teaching responsibility to you. We have entered into a partnership with you as co-educators for ‘the purpose of a school is to help the family educate the child’ (Dr Don Edgar).

We are open to an ongoing, complementary, collaborative and mutually supportive and respected working relationship that brings together our specific skills and experiences. We have formed a powerful partnership. You bring to the partnership your educational expertise. We bring our commitment to and aspirations for our children plus an intimate knowledge of their personality, learning style, gifts and challenges.

What a powerful combination full of opportunities and challenges!!

Let’s work together to maximise this opportunity and realise our common goal – that our children will develop a positive sense of themselves as learners and be given every chance to realise their full potential.

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