I am sure that all parents want to see their children grow up to be happy, independent adults and we can all help to ensure that this happens. Independence can begin to be developed from an early age by having expectations that your child does as much for him or herself as possible that is age appropriate. Often referred to as “helicopter parents” those who, with the best of intentions, tend to do as much for their child as possible without letting them do what they should be able to do independently, has been the source of much debate and research in recent times. Child psychologist, Andrew Fuller has provided the following recommendations for parents; “Tricky Kids: Transforming Conflict and Freeing Their Potential” (Finch Publishing, 2010),

- Children learn competence and confidence by tackling some things on their own.
- There are some situations in which your child can cope without your help.
- Help is not always helpful. Sometimes it robs children of the opportunity to work out their own way of doing things.
- The toughest trees grow in the windiest conditions. Making everything easy for your child won’t help them cope with hardship.
- Rarely, or never, do anything for a child that they can do for themselves. It’s easy to keep feeding them with a spoon or dressing them, but the parents who encourage their child to do these tasks on their own are genuinely doing the best for their child. Think of how they’ll grow up.
- And remember- one day your child will need to cope without you.

The more you do for your child, the more they will expect from you and the less they will expect from themselves.

So how can a parent love and care for their children without inhibiting their ability to learn important life skills? Dr. Deborah Gilboa (parenting expert, youth development expert, parenting speaker & author based in USA), offers this advice: “As parents, we have a very difficult job. We need to keep one eye on our children now--their stressors, strengths, emotions--and one eye on the adults we are trying to raise. Getting them from here to there involves some suffering, for our kids as well as for us.”

Dr Gilboa goes on to say that “in practical terms, this means letting children struggle, allowing them to be disappointed, and when failure occurs, helping them to work through it. It means letting your children do tasks that they are physically and mentally capable of doing. Making your 3-year-old's bed isn’t hovering. Making your 13-year-old's bed is. Remembering to look for opportunities to take one step back from solving our child's problems will help us build the reliant, self-confident kids we need.”

So, with this in mind, whilst continuing to support your child, before doing things for them, ask yourself the question- "Is this something they can do for themselves?” If the answer is “yes” then let them.

Last week you would have all received a flier advising you of a major working bee set down for the weekend of the 13th and 14th of June. Thank you to those who have returned their forms indicating your availability. However, if we are to complete all of the planned tasks, we need many more volunteers. If all families could commit to just one hour, I am sure that we can get everything done. Of particular importance on the Saturday will be the preparation of the Centenary Path. On Sunday all of the pavers will be laid, so our Saturday focus will be on the excavation of the pathway and the formation of timber edging along each side. We will then be preparing a bed of sand for the pavers to sit on. Once the pavers are laid on the Sunday we will be sweeping crushed rock between them which will complete the path.

Regards
Michael
CELEBRATING OUR CHILDREN’S
ACHIEVEMENTS

Luke and Renee received their Artist of the Month Awards at assembly last Friday.

We wish to advise that our uniform supplier will be relocating from 24th June until 20th July and will be unable to process any orders during that time. Please place any uniform orders with the uniform shop prior to the 12th June to avoid disappointment.

We apologise for any inconvenience caused.

Sue Dickson
Uniform Shop Co-Ordinator
"What does your child do that someone else relies on?"

Most people shift a little uneasily when I ask this question in parenting seminars! It’s not meant to make you feel guilty. It’s meant to provoke some thought and make a point about developing responsibility in kids.

I’m often asked by parents how to develop responsibility in kids. The answer is simple – give responsibility to them! Let them feed the family pet, empty the dishwasher, clean up the living area at the end of the day.

Most kids rise to a real challenge when it’s sincerely given, and backed by realistic expectations. We tend to give responsibility to the kids who don’t need it – the easy kids. But we often ignore the kids in our family who really would benefit from giving them some trust – the difficult kids, those that require following up, or some parental work.

Kids belong in two ways to families – they either belong due to their positive contribution or they belong through poor behaviour. The family pest belongs as much as the responsible child – their parents know they are around!! It makes sense for parents to work hard to provide opportunities for kids to contribute to their family so they feel valued for what they bring to their family, rather than for what they take.

Here are three practical tips to promote a sense of responsibility in your kids:

1. Start early: Children as young as three are keen to help and take some responsibility but we often push them away and say, ‘You can help when you’re older.’ Train your kids from a young age to help themselves and others.

2. If a child forgets then no one else does the task: If a child doesn’t empty the dishwasher then it is still there when they come home from school. Sounds tough but that’s how the real world operates. When you empty it, it becomes your responsibility.

3. Don’t give kids jobs where you have an emotional attachment: Give them tasks that you know that you can live without if they are not done, or not done to your standard.

Another thing! Many parents call this type of responsibility ‘jobs’ or ‘chores’. I prefer to call it ‘help’. It’s just a little rebranding, but it reflects what it’s about.

Taken from Michael Grose’s Parenting Ideas newsletter. 2015.

K.I.D REP
ONESIE AND PYJAMA DAY

Last Thursday we held a PJ and Onesie day for the Nepal earthquake victims.

All the money raised went to a foundation called TREK MEDIC.

TREK MEDIC are people like paramedics and medical people who help people get better and get medical attention. They donate their time and supply medical equipment.

We raised a TOTAL OF $211.15.

We would like to thank everyone for dressing up for a good cause. We had fun organising this fundraiser. Thanks to everyone at Seaford Primary School.

COMmUNITY NEWS

Displayed on the Noticeboard in the front foyer of the Office.

- Skyed for Sport Birthday Parties Frankston
- Chelsea Gulls Basketball Camp

Beach Patrol Launch
Saturday 27 June, 10.30am – 12pm

Join us to learn about two new Beach Patrol groups in Frankston and Seaford.

Inspired to help look after our natural environment, these enthusiastic locals give one hour of their time each month to pick up litter on our beaches.

Help celebrate “people power” that makes a difference!

LAUNCH VENUE
Frankston Life Saving Club
101 Wells St, Frankston

FREE EVENT
Guest speakers will hold a Q and A after the film.

Registrations are essential. To book your place, please go to launchbeachpatrol.eventbrite.com or leave a message at 9708 1628.

Light refreshments provided.
Persuasive Text

In Grade 5/6 we have been writing Persuasive texts. Our aim is to convince the reader, to agree with our point of view. This Term we have debated the topics; Is homework necessary? Should school uniforms be compulsory? All school camps are being cancelled! Should the school have its own swimming pool?

Here are three persuasive texts that argue the writer’s point of view. Do you agree or disagree with them?

Homework helps students to remember what they have been doing in class. Homework can also help teachers by letting them know where the student is up to and their understanding of the topic. Although homework can take up their free time it can still be a lot of fun.

To begin with, doing homework helps to keep your brain active. Homework keeps your brain active by revising you on what you have been doing in the classroom. Keeping your brain active can also give you a better education.

Furthermore, homework can give you a better understanding of your class topic. Understanding class topics is very important for your learning. A better understanding will help you get good grades in the future and now.

Additionally, by doing homework you can get higher grades. Getting higher grades can give you a better future. Homework gives you higher grades by helping you learn more.

In summary, I believe that homework is necessary and helpful. I personally enjoy doing homework as it keeps my grades up and helps me learn new things. By Amy J

Homework can improve your life. Homework improves everything like your job and lots more. So, homework can be necessary. Homework is really good for your education.

Homework will help you with a lot of things. Homework is something that teachers give to you to do at home. Homework helps you to revise what you do in the classroom. Students can get into trouble when they do not finish their homework in time.

Homework can also take a student a very long time to complete, the student may miss out on sport because they haven’t finished their homework.

Furthermore, homework is done by teachers and adults every day. Homework is not just for learning what you do in class. Homework is not just for students and teachers. It could be for people getting ready for a test. Homework is being done by people without a job as well. I believe that homework is very good for the student’s education.

By Jack. P

Homework is a great way to help students remember what they have been learning in the classroom. It gives them a responsibility to bring it in on time. It also shows the teacher how well you’re doing outside of school. If the student needs extra help, homework can also show the areas they need help with.

To begin with, homework keeps your brain motivated. Homework keeps your brain motivated by helping you keep up with your school work. Doing homework also gives you a better understanding on what you are doing in class.

Additionally, homework teaches you new topics that you don’t get to learn in class. You get to research new information that in the future could be really important to know. The topics you get to research for homework are actually important facts you need to know for class.

Furthermore, homework is a great way to get higher grades. It also gets you working to your best abilities. Getting higher grades also has a huge impact on your future. Homework can also push you ahead in your school work.

In conclusion, I believe homework is a great way to keep your brain motivated, learn new facts and obtain higher grades. I personally enjoy homework even though it can take time away from other activities it is still a fun and interesting task.

By Molly