

# THE KING'S KEN – 21 MAY 2009

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

### THE BIBLICAL ALTERNATIVE TO BULLYING

Take a look at what, according to Scripture, accompanies true kindness: "Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you." (Ephesians 4:31 – 32) New International Version)

To consistently live up to all this is humanly impossible! But 'with God, all things are possible' (Matthew 19:26).

How important is kindness? In a 2003 study of 37 cultures around the world, 16 000 subjects were asked about their most desired traits in a mate. For both sexes, the first preference was kindness! People want to be treated kindly but have a harder time being kind themselves. A large-scale study of school bullies was recently conducted to learn why they bully other kids. The conclusion? Most do it because they enjoy doing it.

This illustrates how cruel, mean and sadistic raw human nature is. Kindness must be learned, and many children are not being taught it. In fact, much of the media they're exposed to, teaches the opposite. Violence and other terrible influences in media entertainment cause people to become desensitized and calloused toward the needs and feelings of others.

Some people think kindness is weak – not something for 'go-getters' to be bothered with. Big mistake! If we want God, who has ultimate control of how things go in the universe, to be kind to us, we'd better be kind to others. 'Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy' (Matthew 5:7)

People have many excuses: 'I'm too busy.' 'The person deserves his suffering.' 'God is probably punishing him' (like Job's friends assumed wrongly in the book of Job). But God doesn't accept excuses for failing to show kindness. Lack of kindness is epidemic. The apostle Paul accurately foretold a cold and hard-hearted world 'in the last days' (2 Timothy 3: 1-3). As a result, people are starved for the milk of human kindness!

Kindness starts with caring – being tenderhearted and compassionate toward others. If God wants us to be kind to animals, how much more to people! (See Proverbs 12:10).

Next, we must make it our goal and habit to be actively looking for opportunities to show kindness. When we see one, we need to act quickly before the opportunity is gone.

The Greek work for 'kind' is *chrestos*. Part of its meaning is useful, which makes it clear that biblical kindness involves action. "Dear children, let us stop just saying we love each other; let us really show it by our actions' (1 John 3:18, New Living Translation).

Action includes some kind of self-sacrifice and therefore generosity on our part, especially by our time. If you and I are kind to hundreds of nice people, doesn't that prove we are kind people? Perhaps yes, according to normal standards. But God's standard requires being kind to all – even 'evil' people.

A huge factor in the world today is that many people are psychologically confused, wounded and scarred by being neglected, rejected or abused, especially during the vulnerable time of childhood. They can be full of depression, fears, anger and suspicion.

And people who have not been abused themselves may well have absorbed attitudes passed along from those who have been abused.

If you reach your hand out to pet a dog, will he wag his tail or bite you? If he has been repeatedly beaten and abused, he may interpret your gesture as a threat and bite. Likewise, many people are suspicious of any favours. They assume everyone has a selfish ulterior motive and is out to manipulate them or hurt them. They often 'bite the hand that feeds them.'

But these people need kindness more than anyone! Persistent efforts to be kind to them can gradually convince them that you are a true friend. Furthermore, your kindness can bring about progressive healing for their wounded hearts.

With each of us, may the fruit of kindness continue to blossom and grow. Above all, may we strive to follow in the footsteps of Jesus Christ, who personified God's 'hesed' in the greatest example of loving kindness.

**Mr. Ken Langley**

**Principal**

### **HOMEWORK HABITS THAT HELP**

Homework is one of those necessary evils. It reinforces the work done in class, it alerts the teacher to work that is not fully understood and it teaches independence and self discipline. Yet it is also the source of conflict and many tears in most households. For some children, homework may be seen as torture, an extension of an exhausting day.

Good study habits are the foundations for successful work habits as an adult, so it is important to develop a positive attitude and build good habits early in your child's school life. Here are some tips to reduce tension around homework.

### **Discussion with Teacher**

- Discuss your child's homework problems with her teacher and find out what the teacher's expectations are of your child – perhaps the homework can be adjusted (not scrapped!) to suit her abilities.
- It is important to develop a good line of communication with the teacher. Let the teacher know that you are willing to be involved in helping your child and would like to be kept informed of your child's progress or any problems which arise.
- Find out if the teacher is aware of your child's learning difficulties, if there are any, if she is making any accommodations for homework tasks.
- Find out what the school's homework policy is and just how involved you should be in monitoring the homework. (Check our website [www.kswr.org.za](http://www.kswr.org.za))
- Find out how much time per day your child is expected to spend on homework and what you should do if she cannot finish within the expected time.
- Make regular appointments with the teacher to get and give feedback on how things are going at school and at home. Perhaps some ideas are not working and need to be reviewed or perhaps homework sessions are going well and your child is ready for a new challenge.

### **WE PRAY FOR .....**

- Mr. Horn is recovering after a hip replacement operation.
- Mrs. Jooste is recovering after surgery.

### **PRAYER DAY DETAILS**

- Saturday 30 May 2009
- Time 08:00 to 09:00
- Meet us at the gate and join us in a prayer walk around our school.

### **Important dates for the 2<sup>nd</sup> term**

- |  |   |                    |
|--|---|--------------------|
| • Roots and Fruits Photo's                               | - | 21 May 2009        |
| • U9 to U13 soccer and netball tournament – Horizon View | - | 23 May 2009        |
| • U14 Netball festival (Heron Bridge)                    | - | 22 + 23 May 2009   |
| • Roots and Fruits Gala Evening                          | - | 29 May 2009        |
| • <b>Prayer morning</b>                                  | - | <b>30 May 2009</b> |

- Homework Load Shedding Week - 1 – 5 June 2009
- Reading Week - 1 – 5 June 2009
- Traveling Bookshop - 1 – 2 June 2009
- High School Extra Mural Practices end - 5 June 2009
- Exams start (Grade 8 to Grade 12) - 8 June 2009
- School Holiday - 15 June 2009
- Primary School Extra Mural Practices end - 19 June 2009
- Grade 9 subject choice assessment - 25 June 2009
- Exams end - 26 June 2009
- School closes - 26 June 2009
- Grade 9 subject choice assessment - 26 June 2009
- Winter School - 29 June to 3 July 2009
- School Starts - 21 July 2009

### **MIA MOMENT**

You've said that a prudent person sees real danger and takes refuge; the fool keeps charging ahead (Prov. 22:3). Teach me to fear wisely. Is my feeling a God-given warning sign to be heeded, or is it faithless, self-preoccupied fretting?

Bring this encouragement to mind today: The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid (Heb. 13:6).

Amen

### **TELEPHONE LINES OUT OF ORDER**

During the school holidays our school's telephone lines were all stolen. This means that we have no e-mail, fax or telephones available. Should you need to contact the school, please phone us on our cell phone number:

**079 512 1287/8**

### **THE SCHOOL WEAR SHOP**

**Operating hours:** Tuesdays and Thursdays 07:45 – 12:00

If parents need assistance or to make alternative arrangements, please contact Liza on 072 108 3670.

### FOR FRIENDS FRIDAY

Collection for **Friday 22 May 2009** will be **RICE/SAMP**.

29 May	-	Pasta
5 June	-	Powdered Milk/Long Life Milk
12 June	-	Cleaning Products (i.e. Handy Andy, Dishwashing liquid)
19 June	-	Cold drink/Juice
26 June	-	Sugar

In addition to the above, any warm clothes for children from 3 months to 9 years old will be greatly appreciated.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR UNWAVERING SUPPORT!**

### THURSDAY CYCLE ASSESSMENT – PRIMARY SCHOOL

GRADE	28 MAY	1-5 June	11 JUNE	18 JUNE	25 JUNE
4	Theme	Homework Loadshedding	Maths		Theme Project
5	Natural Sciences		Afrikaans		Social Sciences
6				Afrikaans	
7				Maths	

### DRESS CODE

**girls:**

- navy blue skirt
- white short sleeve open neck shirt (summer)
- white long sleeve shirt with tie (winter)
- white socks (summer)
- black/navy tights (winter)
- black shoes
- jersey with white stripe on neck and sleeves
- blazer (grade 7-12)
- grey long pants (winter)

**boys:**

- white short sleeve open neck shirt (summer)
- white long sleeve shirt with tie (winter)

grey socks (summer and winter)  
grey long pants (summer and winter)  
black shoes  
jersey with white stripe on neck and sleeves  
blazer (grade 7-12)

**sports uniform :** school track-suit (compulsory)  
school t-shirt  
navy shorts  
white takkies

Should your child not wear the correct uniform on a particular day, please send a letter to the teacher explaining why.

**Uniforms available from the school-wear shop on the  
school premises (Contact Liza 072 108 3670)**

#### **URGENT LIFT REQUIRED**

I am scheduled for surgery at Flora Clinic on Thursday morning (21 May 2009) with a recovery time of 6 weeks. I will be needing assistance with transport home from school for my 2 boys Jesse and Misha during this time. On Mondays they both finish by 13:45. Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays they finish by 14:15. Wednesdays Misha finishes at 13:15 and Jesse has chess till 15:15.

Anyone collecting at these times and driving near Roodepoort North area en route home able to assist dropping my boys at Seventh Avenue please contact me urgently on 082 858 7142 or [trys.schwartz@gmail.com](mailto:trys.schwartz@gmail.com).

Thank you kindly for your assistance.

Trys Schwartz

#### **EISTEDDFOD**

As a school we are registered with the National Eisteddfod as one school, not two separate schools with our own unique reference no. A letter will go out this week inviting entries to the Eisteddfod. As a school we are required to follow the registration process as laid out by the National Eisteddfod executive and therefore request all entries to be sent to Mrs Mercia Swanepoel who is our current representative with the National Eisteddfod.

## CONGRATULATIONS

- Connor Hughes has been selected for the u13 Roodepoort Soccer team.
- Justin Fouche, Aiden Pennels and Mickheil Kulhmall have been selected for the D12 Chess team.

## Times of the Intermediate Inclusion Programme for Term 2

### Times for the Intermediate Inclusion Programme - Term 2

Grade 4 & 5 - Teacher Melanie

Grade 6 & 7 - Teacher Robyn

MONDAY      13h45 - 14h00      Power Spelling

TUESDAY      13h45 - 14h30      Maths  
                    14h30 - 15h30      Language & Writing

WEDNESDAY 13h45 - 14h45      Reading, Comprehension & Language  
                    14h45 - 15h15      Maths