

THE KING'S KEN – 18 JUNE 2009

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

TRACING THE ORIGINS OF BULLYING

The following article was written by Dr. Peter Hammond:

There are always bullies and I had my share of taunts, teasing, being kicked, tripped and being beaten black and blue by gangs at school. Now that I have children of my own, I have to help them handle the inevitable bullies they face as well.

Educationists are reporting that violence amongst school children is increasing. Many teachers are complaining about the violent character and destructive habits of so many of the children they are assigned to work with. As one put it: "They come saturated with the popular culture, foul-mouthed language, resentful attitudes towards anyone in authority and arrogant disdain for learning."

Dr. Harriet Klopper, a criminologist in Pretoria, has concluded that the media is playing a key role: "It is estimated that children see more than 8 000 murders and 100 000 violent acts on TV before they reach high school.' Up to 80% of computer games aimed at youngsters between the ages of 8 and 14 realistically portray blood, beheadings, mutilation and death in graphic colour, with all of the associated sound effects. 'And heroes who die in these games come to life again, which teach children that violence has no consequences.'

What we see influences what we think and what we think influences what we become and what we do. Ideas have consequences. Actions flow from thought patterns. What form of education is moulding your child's thought patterns? What entertainment and news media is filling their minds?

We as parents are responsible before God to disciple our children.

- Are you doing everything possible to ensure your child, or children, are learning to love and obey God?
- Are you disciplining your children by instruction and by example?
- Do you regularly pray for your children?
- Do you regularly pray with your children?
- Are you regularly reading the Scriptures to your children?
- Are you training your children in Bible memorization?
- Are you bringing your children up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord (Ephesians 6:4)?

Mr. Ken Langley

Principal

PARABLE OF THE SOWER as shared by Teacher Ethel in staff devotions; acknowledgement to David Dawitt.

Growing up we always planted a garden at my grandmother's. One of the tasks that we seemed to dislike more than others was weeding the garden. We would walk row by row and pull out the weeds. Weeds do nothing but sap the strength and vitality out of the good plants.

²⁴ Jesus told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field. ²⁵ But while everyone was sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and went away. ²⁶ When the wheat sprouted and formed heads, then the weeds also appeared. ²⁷ The owner's servants came to him and said, "Sir, didn't you sow good seed in your field? Where then did the weeds come from?" ²⁸ "An enemy did this," he replied. The servants asked him, "Do you want us to go and pull them up?" ²⁹ "No," he answered, "because while you were pulling the weeds, you may root up the wheat with them. ³⁰ Let both grow together until the harvest. At that time I will tell the harvesters: First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles to be burned; then gather the wheat and bring it into my barn." (Matthew 13:24-30 NIV)

Look closely at what Jesus says here. Satan strives to put weeds in with the good wheat (good things in our lives). He wants to pollute what is good in your life. Satan uses six different weeds to trip us up.

Ignoring God – Ignoring God is a dangerous business because His direction is the only thing that you can count on in life. When you ignore Him you lose that direction.

Disobedience – Obedience is a choice that you and I make on a daily basis. Any time that you make the choice to do the opposite of what God wants you to, it is disobedience. You cannot walk with God if you walk in disobedience.

Most people are not radically disobedient to God overnight. It begins small and slowly grows until large portions of a person's life are in rebellion.

Complaining – Do everything without complaining or arguing. (Phil 2:14) Paul calls the church to do everything without complaining. The last time I checked, everything means just that, everything. I don't know about you but I have encountered people who seem to have complaining down to an art. There are some people who can find something to complain about everywhere they go, even church.

Complaining flows out of a lack of contentment. Complaining is simply not being satisfied with what God is doing. Complaining does no one any good especially the person doing the complaining.

Apathy – is a result of an ongoing lack of care. There is no such thing as a perfect church just like there is no perfect pastor or perfect church member. Our problem is that we become so frustrated with the things we want to see in the church that we forget that not everything in church is going to go our way. If you want to go to a better church start putting some effort into the one you're in.

Focus – There are 2 things that Jesus says to the disciples and we cannot miss them. (1) Come and follow me – remember that this is a command and that means that it is not optional. If you're a Christian you have to follow Jesus, and (2) I will make you fishers of men – our problem is that we have become content with being keepers of the aquarium rather than being fishers of men. We have lost our focus for the church.

For far too long our churches have had their focus on the wrong thing. If we put half as much emphasis on seeking God as we do on trying to please others, churches would be thriving. We are too busy trying to get approval from people rather than seeking it from Jesus.

Selfishness – We have become so selfish that we don't even recognise that we have become selfish. Selfishness is so rampant in the church that people throw fits over the colour of the paint, the time of the service and a host of other things.

Selfishness is essentially this: placing what you think is right before what God says is right. We place the desire of what we want ahead of what God wants and desires for us and the church.

You don't have to like everything that goes on in the church. You're not going to be ministered to by every single thing that the church does. There will be some songs that aren't your favourite. There might be some messages that you don't think are the greatest. There might be some ministries that don't work for you.

Who are you serving? Are you serving yourself or are you serving God?

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.

BREAKS

- Concentration depends on your child's developmental level – first graders are unlikely to last for more than 15 minutes on a task while high school children can focus effectively for up to an hour, sometimes longer.
- Allowing breaks in between each task will enable your child to refresh and come back to his homework with more energy.
- It is better to have frequent short breaks, depending on how much time is available. Breaks should include physical movements like walking or playing outside, having a snack, or even engaging in a conversation with you.
- Watching TV should not be considered as taking a break.

WE PRAY FOR

- The Fourie family (Leriche) who lost their beloved Dad and Grandpa recently.
- Chelsea Botha and family who have a brand new little boy born on 8 June, named Cole.
- All those still recovering from surgery.

Important dates for the 2nd term

- Primary School Extra Mural Practices end - 19 June 2009
- Grade 9 subject choice assessment - 25 – 26 June 2009
- Exams end - 26 June 2009
- School closes - 26 June 2009
- Winter School - 29 June to 3 July 2009
- School Starts - 21 July 2009

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 or (011) 958 5188 or (011) 958 5189

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 19 June 2009** will be **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	25 JUNE
4	Theme Project
5	Social Sciences

**Do you wish you could understand how your child is naturally wired to learn?
Is there a way that actually helps information to “stick”?**

YES!!!

Mind Moves® And Mind Dynamix Brain Profiling®

Tools that offer solutions!

Knowing your child’s genetic learning profile explains how they are naturally wired to take in, process and act on information. It also explains where his/her natural strengths lie and clearly shows which subjects would suit his/her unique learning profile. Mind Moves® programmes are tailor made to help your child maximize his/her potential!

Contact Robyn Cloete: Teacher, Mind Moves Instructor and Brain Profiler:

082 414 6889 (after teaching hours) 20% discount for all TKSQR Learners.

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Train your brain to gain!

Knowing your learning style and how your brain is wired = optimal performance enhancement in learning, social interaction etc.

The King's School West rand is at the forefront of the latest learning discoveries with their implementation of Mind Moves ® in the classroom. Latest learning and brain discoveries prove that movement establishes pathways in the brain.

Latest international studies in learning and memory retention support South African, Dr Melodie de Jager's research into how pathways in the brain are established through movement. This testimonial is from a teacher in Australia following the Australian Move to Learn programme: A Participating Teacher from the 2006 Research;

Last year (2006) we did the MTL programme every day in the school with all the kids (2.5 - 6 years). At the end of the year, we normally expect the older children to be working with 50-odd piece puzzles and be able to draw a decent body image (mostly still 'stick' like). Well by Dec 2006, we were running out of 100-piece puzzles (first time EVER) and the body images were all full figure and with immense detail..... You see - it CERTAINLY works!

Another prominent Private School in South Africa has implemented, throughout the school from Gro – Gr12, a movement programme developed in the UK and are marketing their success with it. We, at The King's School West Rand, are proud to say that we have also trained in using movement to develop specific pathways in the brain and enhance learning. Dr Melodie de Jager's Mind Moves® programme is based on proven neurological and physiological links and the specific exercises are proven to develop and stimulate specific pathways in the brain, bringing about specific results. Mind Moves® stimulate the neurological pathways that are necessary to perform certain skills, such as reading, writing, problem solving, concentration etc. Understanding your child's learning style and his genetic wiring explains how he takes in information, how he processes information and how he is likely to act on what he has processed. With these tools we hope to help each child understand his potential and enhance his performance!

By Robyn Cloete