Dear Parents,

At our school liturgy on Monday to celebrate Catholic Education Week, the winners of the ‘Love and Learn Award’ for 2014 were presented with their trophies. The current year six class voted at the end of last term for the classmates that they consider to have the qualities deserving of the ‘Love and Learn Award’ for 2014.

Joshua Gronbach, Madeleine Bach and Katie Bloo are pictured with “Maddison’s Trophy” which will be presented each year to the winners of the Love and Learn Award.

Representatives of Our Lady of the Assumption School attended a very large gathering at St Stephen’s Cathedral on Sunday afternoon for a special Mass to celebrate Catholic Education Week.
Free Parenting Workshop! with Professor Matt Sanders, world-renowned parenting expert.

We are inviting separated or divorced parents to participate in a free, half-day parenting workshop presented by Professor Matt Sanders. Matt Sanders is a Professor of Clinical Psychology and the founder of the Triple P – Positive Parenting Program. He has been a consultant to the World Health Organisation and is Expert Consultant on Positive Parenting to the Council of Europe. The workshop targets concerns such as how to improve personal coping skills, reduce conflict between parents, improve family relationships and best support children during this time. Parents accessing the workshop will be asked to complete a study survey. If you are interested, please access the study webpage here - https://exp.psy.uq.edu.au/family-transitions

For further information or any questions, please email familytransitions@uq.edu.au or call (07) 3365 7307.

Fathers’ Day Stall
Don’t forget to pick up a small gift for the Fathers’ Day stall which will be held on Thursday the 4th of September. Some ideas are: Puzzle books, multipacks of chocolates, lollies or biscuits. Look out for specials! Could all donations please be dropped off at the office by Monday the 1st of September to give us time to sort and wrap. Please bring a donation in as the kids love to come and get something for their dad and it is a great fundraiser for the School.

Mara Fachin

Entertainment Book
A big thank you to all families and friends who purchased the Entertainment Book this year. Entertainment Publications presented a cheque to 3F who were the winners of the Baskin Robbins ice-cream party. Total funds raised for our School were $1560.

Bookclub Final Reminder
All bookclub orders are due back to the school Friday the 1st of August.

Janet Dyer DSTA

Defence News
Week three is well on way and so much is happening this term. In Friendship Club we made beautiful necklaces. Today and on Monday we began the process of our community puzzle tree. Thank you to those Defence parents who have informed me that they are leaving at the end of the year. If you’re leaving please let me know as I would hate your children to miss out on going away gifts etc. Until next week take care and be safe.

Janet Dyer DSTA
**Teach Children to Persist**

Parents can promote persistence by encouraging their children to keep going and not give in at the slightest hurdle or difficulty.

“Persistence and patience have a magical effect before which difficulties disappear and obstacles vanish.”

John Quincy Adams

The ability to persist at a task and see it through to the end is one of the most important success attributes that you can develop in a child.

There are numerous times every day when children must persist rather than give in. A young child learning to tie shoelaces must persist. A primary aged student must show determination to finish tasks and a secondary student needs to work through difficulties, particularly those he doesn’t understand or complete right away.

They need to be able to persist when work gets hard or life gets tough. They need the ‘stickability’ to work through difficulties and hang in there when things don’t go their way.

Some children are more naturally predisposed to persist than others. They have a determined, even competitive streak in their temperament that doesn’t allow them to give in. These children and young people can drive themselves very hard to succeed.

The results of the Australian Temperament Project show that persistence is the one temperamental factor that can be improved over time. Parents and teachers can develop persistence in children and also impede its development by making life too easy for children so that they don’t have opportunities to persist or hang in there.

Parents can promote persistence by encouraging their children to keep going and not give in at the slightest hurdle or difficulty. Parents can be a sounding board for children’s gripes but they should show confidence in their ability to cope and get through their difficulties. “You can do it” is far more powerful in terms of promoting an attitude of persistence than “If it is a little too hard then try something else.”

Let children know that there is a correlation between effort and success. In fact, they need to learn that by GIVING EFFORT they will more than likely experience more success. The ability to persist in the face of difficulties maybe an old-fashioned quality but it is one of the best success attributes that children will ever develop.

**Here are four practical strategies you can use to promote a sense of persistence in your children:**

1. Develop a vocabulary for persistence. Words like “Hang tough”, “Work Hard” and “Hang in there” can become part of their everyday vocabulary.
2. Point out to children when they stick at a task. Most parents know it pays off when they catch their children being good but it also pays off to catch them being persistent. The behaviours you focus on as parents expand so let them know when they have been persistent. Also remind them that persistence generally pays off.
3. Help children to remember times when they experienced success by HANGING IN when they were younger. Let them know that persistence has paid off before and it will again.
4. Talk about HARD WORK with your children. They need to understand that to be successful they need to do things that are NOT fun or easy. While it would be good if all work and learning was fun, in reality, this is not always the case.

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Do you have a daughter who is due to commence Year 7 in 2018?

Mount Alvernia College is currently accepting Applications for Enrolment for this year level. **Closing date for Applications is 8 February 2015.**

Due to the large volume of applications being received, it is important that you lodge your application by the due date to be considered in first round offers. Second round offers are made subject to availability.

Enrolment Forms are available via email request from the Mount Alvernia College website www.mta.edu.au or can be collected from the School Office.

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**ATTENTION PAST MT MARIA TEACHERS AND ALUMNI (Class of ’89)**

Our quarter century reunion is being celebrated August 9 at the Waterloo Hotel, Newstead (7pm-partners welcome).

For further information go to https://www.facebook.com/groups/36041197437/ (under ‘Events’ tab) or ring Justin M on 0403892378 outside office hours.