

## PARENTS OF YEAR 7, 2024

A common question that parents ask when their children are entering high school is **“How can I help my child to do well?”**

Here are a few suggestions which may help, while being mindful of the fact that many parents do not have a great deal of spare time in the afternoons and evenings.

* Ensure that at least one hour is set aside every afternoon for homework, reading or revision, in a quiet place, away from TV. If your child has completed all required work, the rest of the time could be used for reading for pleasure or revision of the day’s work. If your child gets into the routine of spending an hour of homework time now, good habits are being established early.
* Encourage your child to inspect his/her timetable each night so that his/her bag can be packed with the books and materials needed for each subject the next day.
* Encourage your child to read widely, and to join the local library. Encourage the reading of newspapers in addition to books, to build their general knowledge in all subjects. Reading will increase your child’s vocabulary, as well as improving spelling skills, sentence structure, organization and writing skills. Play word games, particularly in the school holidays and when driving long distances. Well developed literacy skills have a very positive impact on student achievement.
* Listen to your child read or you may even read to, or with him/her, especially if he/she is finding the required reading difficult. At Year 7 level they are not necessarily too old to be read to!
* Build your child’s language skills through regular discussions and debates. Watch the news with them and build their awareness of contemporary issues around the dinner table.
* Show interest in your child’s progress, skills and knowledge. Ask challenging questions and be encouraging. Enjoy finding out about the topics being studied and the projects they are creating. Help your child revise for exams.
* Take your child on visits to museums and galleries and major community events. This will help develop general knowledge and creativity.

Cassy Norris

Principal