



Dear parents

In today's society, instant access and real-time information are something we take for granted. Emails, online portals, apps and newsletters are some of the ways in which schools keep parents informed. In Reggio-inspired preschools, the emphasis on parent communication goes beyond newsletters and emails. Parents are viewed as vital components and contributors to the school's philosophy and we encourage them to involve themselves in it. Teachers recognise and respect parents as a child's primary teacher, while educators are seen as advocates and learners alongside the children, as the second teacher, with the environment as the third teacher.

As parents, we often forget that we are our child's role model. Our actions, words and the way we treat each others influence how children perceive relationships in the world. Our parental instinct to protect our children often limits what children are able to do. We want to wrap them in cotton wool, smoothing the path ahead of them instead of supporting and encouraging them when they do fall or experience disappointment.

Allowing children the freedom to take appropriate risks through outdoor play is essential for their development. Risky play does not mean placing children in grave danger, but instead allowing them to be children – climbing, jumping from heights and hanging upside down are good examples. Risky play allows children to test limits and

solve problems. And, yes, this includes learning what happens when they overstretch themselves and fall.

The environment at Little Saints provides for the above-mentioned experiences to take place.

Last month, Little Saints staff held a Reggio workshop for the parents. The morning began with a brief overview of the Reggio philosophy with a focus on the image of the child. The parents were then divided into smaller groups and were given the opportunity to express themselves using a few of the 100 languages of children. It was a wonderful and well-attended morning. Thank you to all the parents who joined us.

Our annual fundraiser, the Little Saints wheelathon was a success. The children thoroughly enjoyed zooming around the tennis courts on their bikes and scooters as their parents and grandparents photographed and cheered them on. Thank you for your generous sponsorships and donations.

We look forward to engaging with you further as the year unfolds.

Kindest regards

**CELIA DIANA**  
**HEAD OF DEPARTMENT: LITTLE SAINTS**

