

Welcome to our First Edition!

I'm really excited to be able to bring you this first edition of our monthly newsletter for Teachers, Parents and Students! After much planning and hard work, The Cool School is ready to deliver programs to School Communities across Queensland.

Like our programs, The Cool Chronicle won't be weighed down with unnecessary detail. Instead, we will focus on a main topic each month and give you a selection of tools and techniques to use in school or at home.

This month, we look at "effective communication". As many of you will know, being an effective communicator takes practice and hard work—there is no quick fix! In our instant coffee and one-minute burger world, we often forget to make the effort.

We appreciate you taking the time to read The Cool Chronicle. Any feedback is welcome—just contact our office at the address overleaf.

Simon Young
Partner—The Cool School

About "The Cool School".

The Cool School believes that Children, Parents and Teachers often need assistance to achieve their full potential in life. Our dream is to inspire rather than just to inform and to challenge and add value to traditional methods of education. We know that everyone has the potential to be exceptional if the opportunity is genuinely offered. Sound values, Principles and Self Esteem are essential for a well balanced life. The Cool School offers programs that embrace essential life skills and values through programs that challenge, inspire and nurture.

The three key elements incorporated into all programs offered by The Cool School are:

- Exciting Content,
- Inspirational Trainers and,
- Ongoing Support.

We love what we do, and it shows!

Our Vision

The Cool School seeks to deliver real life programs that inspire and empower Children, Teachers and Parents. Our programs are values based and deliver against stated outcomes. Our presenters are carefully selected and accredited teachers and trainers who are passionate about their field of interest. We are not bound and constrained by the limitations of "traditional" education, but seek to complement tradition in ways that promote a deeper understanding of self and instill a love of lifelong learning.



Information + Inspiration = Deeper Learning

Take a moment to think about something you really love doing. Now, think about the person who gave first gave you the interest in doing that thing. What was it about that person that made them able to ignite that passion in you? Did they give you vast amounts of information, or did they tell you just enough to get you really interested, then gave you a push to find out more? Often, the people

The mediocre teacher tells. The good teacher explains. The superior teacher demonstrates. The great teacher inspires.

William Arthur Ward

who have the most profound impact on our lives are quite humble. They may have been a teacher, parent or relative, friend, employer or mentor, but through their own passion and interest, they lit a fire in us that caused us to do something or to be something more than we would have accomplished on our own.

As free-willed individuals, it's so important for us to do things we really feel passionate about. Our values and beliefs shape the person we are and drive our behaviours. If we say or do things that aren't aligned with our values and beliefs, we just don't feel right. Yet when we succeed at something we believe in, we feel fantastic! This is why The Cool School believes it is so important that we each take the time and effort needed to understand what drives us. When we really *know* what we believe and truly *understand* why we say and do the things we do, we can be that much more effective in plotting a course for our lives. When we follow this path, learning is no longer a chore, but another part of the our life journey to be savoured.

Parents—What Language do they Speak?

Do you understand your parents? Does it take a lot of effort to get "inside their heads" and figure out where they are coming from? Do they wear clothes that look like they've come from the set of "That 70's Show"? Do they like listening to AM radio, or bands like The Seekers, or Queen or Pink Floyd? If this sounds a bit like your house, **DON'T PANIC!** There's a really good chance that you are suffering from generation gap-itis, and that means you have something in common with the generations of young people that have gone before you.

The funny thing about the sensations you're experiencing is that it's very likely your parents felt exactly the same way when they were at school! If you think that's a bit scary, try this on for size!

- Your parents probably didn't have colour TV
- CD's and DVD's weren't invented
- There was no one day cricket
- There was no "State of Origin" football

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