



NEWSLETTER

SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT

AT ST FRANCIS XAVIER SCHOOL WE WILL:

Learn, Love, Live The Gospel, Witness Our Faith & Celebrate Life

Friday 30 July, 2021

SFX SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PRIORITIES 2021

Mercy Charism, Writing, Problem Solving, Wellbeing and Partnerships

Dear Parents & Guardians,

Saying 'thank you' is the simplest way to say, 'I appreciate you'. People also feel more motivated when they are appreciated and praised. It indicates that you recognise their effort. This may even encourage them to go the extra mile.

This small act of kindness is a powerful tool that's constantly at your disposal, so use it often and see how the act of thanking makes you feel as awesome as being thanked!

Now, more than ever, we need to make sure that we help our children develop hearts filled with thankfulness. There is no better antidote for the influences of a me-centred society than an "attitude of gratitude."

Are the following in your arsenal of gratitude?

- *I appreciate what you did.*
- *Thank you for thinking of me.*
- *Thank you for your time today.*
- *I value and respect your opinion.*
- *I am so thankful for what you did.*
- *I wanted to take the time to thank you.*
- *I really appreciate your help. Thank you.*
- *Your kind words warmed my heart.*



A number of thank yous must be given this week. Firstly a huge thank you to Mary Oxenham(Miss O) who has single handedly planned and prepared our upcoming Open Morning this coming Sunday. This has taken a great deal of time and co-ordination and to use two of the above quotes, Mary, " we are so thankful for what you have done and we really appreciate your help".

A big thank you also to Kate Rackham (Yr 6 teacher) and Leisa Persson (parent) who coordinated, choreographed and costumed the children who participated in the recent Rock Pop Mime. The children performed beautifully and their behaviour was exceptional. They were an absolute credit to Kate, Leisa, their parents and the school. To Kate and Leisa, "we are so thankful for what you did."

Finally, this week we celebrated a very important anniversary in Catholic Education in Australia - 200 years. At our live streamed mass on Wednesday, certificates and gifts were presented by Miss Leesa Jeffcoat—Diocesan Director of Catholic Education, to the nominees for the Queensland wide Spirit of Catholic Education Awards. Our very own Miss O was one of our regions nominees for 2021. Mary's generosity of spirit, commitment to Catholic Education, love of those in her care and absolute drive to make this world a better place has made Mary a very worthy nominee. Congratulations Miss O.



Have a wonderful weekend. Hope to see you at the Open Morning on Sunday.

God Bless,

D. Hostuella

ST FRANCIS XAVIER CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL
Phone: (07) 4951 1861 or (07) 4994 8275
Mackenzie Street, West Mackay QLD 4740
PO Box 5495 MMC QLD 4741
www.sfxmrok.catholic.edu.au

Week 4

Tuesday 3 August

- ◆ Board Meeting-6.00pm
- ◆ Wednesday 4 August
- ◆ National Aboriginal & Islander Children's Day
- ◆ Sisters of Mercy Foundation Day



St Francis Xavier Catholic Primary School, Mackay



Catholic Education
Diocese of Rockhampton

Strategic Priorities 2021

<p>1. Catholic Identity and Ethos </p>	<p>• Effective Teaching and Learning </p> <p>(NSIT Domains 2,5,6,7,8)</p>
<p>1.1 To embed and align Catholic Social Teaching and the Mercy charism throughout the Curriculum and the Teaching and Learning Framework.</p> <p>Goal: To educate our school community on who the founders of our school are and what values they have imparted.</p>	<p>2.1 That our school has a culture of data informed practice where every student is engaged and learning successfully in their own ways.</p> <p>Goal: To embed 6 + 1 Writing Traits to improve student writing.</p> <p>Goal: To plan and deliver deep learning opportunities in Mathematics enabling students to become proficient in problem solving strategies and terminology.</p>
<p>3. Pastoral Support and Wellbeing </p> <p>(NSIT Domain 3)</p>	<p>4. Leadership, Partnerships and Resourcing </p> <p>(NSIT Domains 1,4,9)</p>
<p>3.1 Based on the Diocesan Wellbeing Framework implement a student wellbeing program that focuses on each child being the best version of themselves.</p> <p>Goal: To identify and enhance the wellbeing of students through the BE YOU program (which is under the umbrella of the Diocesan Wellbeing Framework) to the school community.</p>	<p>4.1 To enhance and develop parent and community partnerships to improve student learning.</p> <p>Goal: To inform our parent body about our spelling practices and changes to spelling homework.</p>

Assistant Principal Religion Education Amanda Griffin



This week's MJR focus was "Who's in charge of your attitude?"



Our attitude matters. It's what drives our day and how we respond to everything around us. When we decide each morning to have a positive attitude, our day can start in a positive way and we can choose to have a good day.

A quote I like to share is, "Every day may not be good, but there is something good in every day."

So, our task this week was to start each morning with a positive attitude and to find the good in your day. We looked for the good in someone else's day, by helping someone, holding a door open, or letting other's go first.

Catholic Education Week

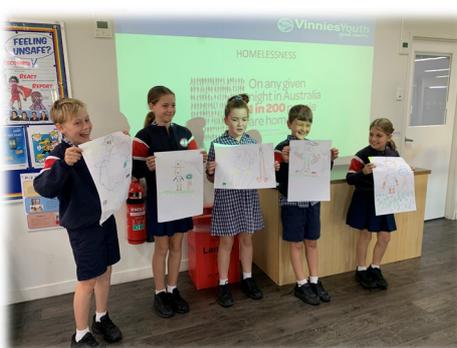


On Wednesday, we celebrated the Catholic Education Mass at St Patrick's Church. We were joined by representatives from all Catholic schools in the Mackay area. Father Don and 3 of his fellow priests concelebrated the Mass. We were also joined by our director, Miss Leesa Jeffcoat, members of the DCEO leadership team and our wonderful Mercy Sisters. One of our MJR Student Leaders, Arabella read the Prayer of the Faithful with great reverence and precision. She and all our student leaders made us incredibly proud in the way they conducted themselves. It was also lovely to run into two of our past students, Don Anthony and Savio who are both senior students at Holy Spirit College and have grown into lovely young men.



Minnie Vinnies

Our Mini Vinnies session began with a social justice slide, discussing what social Justice means and the role of St Vincent De Paul has in it. The students spoke about how everyone is different, and completed an activity where they had to follow instructions – everyone was given the same instructions, however all the groups' drawings turned out differently. The students then named and created their very own Super Hero, making a list of their superpowers. Suddenly our Super Heroes were hit with a "ray of reality" and they no longer had unrealistic powers and the students had to name their good qualities that would help others (our super powers). Finally, the students recorded in groups, the five qualities they have to become a real life superhero.



PARISH MASS - BOOKING INFORMATION

Link for weekend Mass bookings: <https://www.trybooking.com/BKACF>



Booking availability commence 9am on the Monday previous. If you are unable to book on line please phone your respective Parish on the phone numbers listed below.

For St Patrick's, St Francis Xavier, St Mary's and St Michael's 0460 423 603 or 4957 4807 from 9am to 3pm Monday to Friday.

MASS TIMES

Catholic Diocese of Rockhampton website <http://rok.catholic.net.au/>

Includes updates from Bishop Michael; the diocesan response to COVID 19; prayers and faith resources; useful links and lots of other information regarding our diocese. Join Bishop Michael for daily mass via the link above.



Assistant Principal Religion Education

Amanda Griffin



DANIEL MORCOMBE CHILD SAFETY CURRICULUM

Throughout this term, our school will be once again implementing the *Daniel Morcombe Child Safety Curriculum* with students in all year levels. The curriculum is based on principles of best practice in child safety education and centres around three key messages: **Recognise, React** and **Report**. Through a series of lessons, students will learn how to recognise, react, and report when they are unsafe or find themselves in situations that can have a significant detrimental effect on their physical, psychological or emotional wellbeing.

Information about the *Daniel Morcombe Child Safety Curriculum* can be found at www.education.qld.gov.au/child-safety-curriculum.

RECOGNISE

This week we are starting to implement the *Daniel Morcombe Child Safety Curriculum*. The first key safety message of the curriculum is **recognise**. Recognise is about being aware of your environment.

Children, young people, and adults can all learn to take notice of what is happening around them to help keep themselves safe. Everyone can use clues, such as the things we see, hear, smell, or feel to help protect us from harm and keep ourselves safe. Clues can be simple things that warn us about a danger, e.g., hearing a fire alarm or seeing smoke, that prompt us to **react**. We can also use clues to prepare for potentially unsafe situations, e.g., if we are walking alone at night, then we try to use a well-lit route and avoid secluded lanes or parks.

When we **recognise** that there might be a safety problem, we can take steps to move away or reduce the risk or develop strategies that can help keep us safe. For instance, if you are in a busy environment such as the Ekka or a local event where there are big crowds, you might consider what you and your child could do if you became separated. Strategies could include: going to a highly visible pre-determined meeting spot; writing your phone number on a card and placing it in your child's pocket; identifying who your child could approach if they become lost, e.g., police, staff at a booth.



Assistant Principal Administration

Mary Oxenham



"Yesterday, Today, Tomorrow"

ST FRANCIS XAVIER OPEN DAY

Sunday 1 August
10:00am - 12:00pm

Open Day Schedule

10am – Arrival and Welcoming of Visitors by Yr. 6 Student Leaders

10:15am –

- Acknowledgement of Country
- Indigenous Student Dance
 - Welcome by Principal
- Welcome to Dr. Pat Coughlan
 - Opening of Time Capsule

• House Keeping

10:45am -

- Visit to classrooms
- Video in library – “The Mercy Sisters - Cornerstone of Our School”

• Coffee Van

• Sausage Sizzle

• Raffles

- Message for the tree planting
 - Jumping Castles

11.30am –

• Drawing of the raffles

• Planting of tree

- Rock Pop Mime Group performance
- Farewell to visitors by Principal. (Olivia)

12:00 pm - Departure

Catholic Education
CELEBRATING 200 YEARS
Faith in the future



"Yesterday, Today, Tomorrow"

ST FRANCIS XAVIER OPEN DAY

Sunday 1 August
10:00am - 12:00pm

Catholic Education
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Faith in the future



The Pick-Up
Zone Gates

There will only be 3 entrances open on Sunday morning. We need to ensure everyone checks in using our QR code.

Our students leaders will be at the entrances to greet everyone and assist with checking in.



The entrance
beside the library



The entrance beside
the church

A reminder to all parents that the supervision of your children on our Open Day will be your responsibility, as all staff have been allocated jobs for the day.

Our Open Day on 1 August will be a COVID safe event.



QR Check In Code at all entrances to school



Hand sanitiser stations throughout the school



Social distancing guidelines will be followed in all areas



All areas of the school will be thoroughly cleaned both before and after the event

If you are unwell with flu like symptoms, please do not attend our Open Day.

St Francis Xavier Art Competition 2021

St Francis Xavier School will be holding our annual Art Competition again beginning on 26 July and ending on 20 August. There will be three awards presented in the competition:

The Judge's Choice

The People's Choice

The Principal's Choice

The winning entries will be framed and hung in the school library and the winner of each category will receive a small trophy. Our invited judge, Bradley Short an artist and owner of Milton Framers, will determine the winner. The People's Choice award will be determined by staff and students. All students will be given the opportunity to vote for their choice by secret ballot through their class. The Principal's Choice will be awarded by Olivia.

The entry may be part of artwork that has been completed in class time or it may be an individual's piece completed at home. Importantly, the work must belong entirely to the student. Therefore, all entry forms must be signed by the student and his/her parent [or teacher – if the work has been done in class] certifying that the work is entirely that of the student.

Entries:

- must be able to be framed and hung
- maximum size A4
- A4 art-block paper is provided by the school on request to Mrs Chick in the office
- only one entry per person
- no entry fee
- no signature on the front of the work until after judging

Entries open on 26 July and close on 20 August.

Announcement of winners will be made on Assembly in Week 10.



Assistant Principal Curriculum

Jodie Benfer

How do we assess spelling at SFX?

The infamous Friday spelling test, once a staple in many classrooms. Many children talk about how they would practice their spelling words all week and even sleep with the spelling lists under their pillow at times, hoping that by osmosis, they would have a better recall of the words for the spelling test.

Then comes the thought of the children who get a perfect score on the Friday's spelling test are good spellers. But then Monday comes.... and the same word they aced on the test is misspelled in their writing.

Some questions that come from this are:

- ◆ Did the child really learn how to spell each word?
- ◆ Do spelling tests really do any good at teaching kids how to spell?
- ◆ Just because a child can memorise and regurgitate information, does that mean they have learned it well?

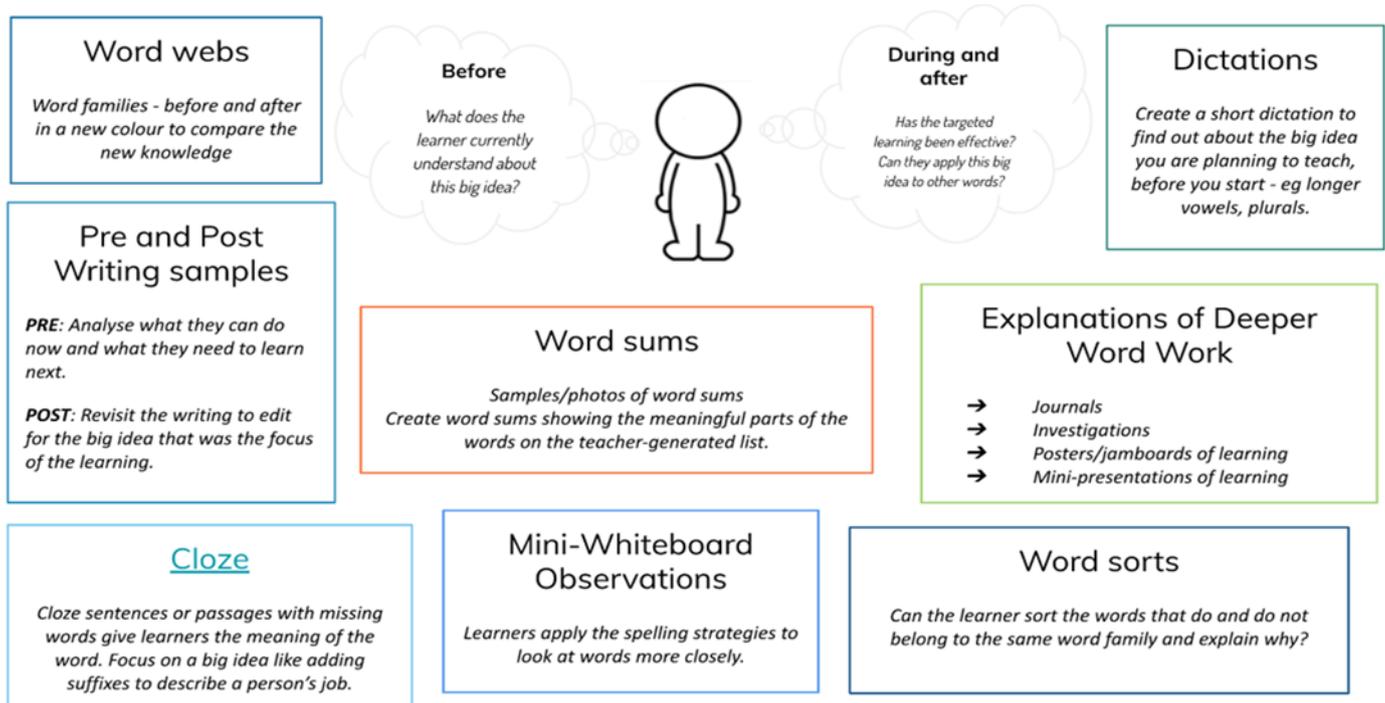
And each time these questions are pondered, the answer always comes to a clear NO.

Why we don't give a Friday Spelling Test

1. Getting 100% on a spelling test does not mean a child has mastery over those words. Most children, even those who earn that A+ on Friday's test, will turn right around and misspell the same word in their writing the following week.
2. Just because a child can memorise words for a test does not mean they understand the logic or reasoning behind the spelling of words.
3. Children need multiple and meaningful exposure to concepts for it to 'stick.' Just one time through (memorising words for a spelling test) does not give them multiple (nor meaningful) exposure to the words. Most children need to read the words, write the words, and interact with the words through hands-on spelling activities to really know the word.

(Misty Adoniou Associate Professor Learning and Literacy & Friday Spelling Test www.thisreadingmama.com)

So, if we don't test on a Friday how do our teachers 'check in' each week?



Other examples of how we 'check in' with spelling across the school

Dictation: Read the dictation passage in full so that children are familiar with the text before they write. Children complete pre-assessment dictation on loose leaf paper

The colourful painting made the lady feel cheerful and able to forget the frightful experience she had at the beach. She was fearful of the shark coming back and hopeful that the painful memories would fade in time.

Big Idea 3 "ful" Name: _____

Write the correct spelling of the circled word.

1. She wore a colorful dress to church. _____
2. He was feerful of falling over in the race. _____
3. She always had a sheerful smile. _____
4. The shark gave the surfer a paneiful bite on his leg. _____
5. Mum was hopefull of winning the Lotto. _____

There is one spelling mistake in each sentence. Write the correct spelling of the word in the box.

6. What a friteful mess was under his desk.
7. There were beaufeful flowers in the vase at home.
8. The playfull kitten tugged at the ball of wool.
9. Dad became forgotful when there were jobs to do.
10. I had wunderful news about my brother.

SET 4: SPELLING FROM WORD MEANING

A large group of compounds occurring in foods that release energy in the body. (13) c...

To leave a ship, aircraft or train. (12) d...

The study of physical features of the earth and its atmosphere. (9) g...

A person who has been shipwrecked and stranded in an isolated place. (9) c...

Write in the correct spelling for the missing words:

1. Our day to (play/plai) _____ on the fort is (wednesdai/Wednesday) _____.
2. I heard the (trane/train) _____ whistle loudly.
3. You really shouldn't (complane/complain) _____ so much.
4. I found a small (snale/snail) _____ in my garden.
5. I wonder what (tail/tale) _____ Mrs Power will tell us today.
6. (paynt/paint) _____ me a picture of yourself.
7. I didn't get any (male/mail) today.
8. The naughty dog was told to (stay/stai) _____ off the mat.

SET 2: IDENTIFY THE SPELLING ERROR

Athletes usually eat a high carberhidrate diet.

The sisters have lived in reasonable harmoney for many years.

The passengers were allowed to dismbark at the front and rear of the aircraft.

The town was declared a dezaster area after the floods.

The statistics can be depicted as a graf.

Our teachers regularly analyse the children's writing samples to examine spelling errors and patterns. This helps our teachers to plan intervention that meets the needs of the whole class, group or individual student.

Premier's Reading Challenge

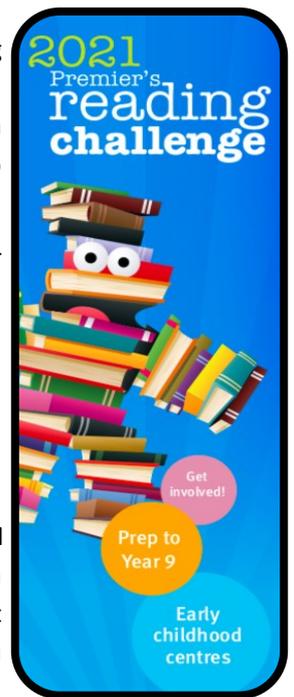
This year, our school will again participate in the Premier's Reading Challenge. The Premier's Reading Challenge is not a competition but a way to encourage students to develop a love of reading for life. Children and students who complete the challenge have their efforts recognised through the receipt of a Certificate of Achievement signed by the Premier of Queensland. Early childhood centres will also receive a centre-wide certificate of recognition for their involvement.

For a student to successfully complete the Premier's Reading Challenge they are required to read or experience the number of books indicated below:

- Prep to Year 2—read or experience 20 books.
- Years 3 to 4—read 20 books.
- Years 5 and above —read 15 books.

The reading period for the 2021 Premier's Reading Challenge commences on Monday 10th May and closes Friday 27th August. A reading log has now been given to each student to fill out at home when they complete a book. Please keep this reading log safe when students are recording their books as it will be due back to school around Week 7 of Term 3. Please let your classroom teacher know if you require a new log.

Miss Tayhla Wood (5W) and Miss Shannon Cross (2C)



STUDENTS OF THE WEEK



EXISTING FAMILIES—PREP 2022 ENROLMENTS

REMINDER: PLEASE CHECK YOUR INTERVIEW TIMES FOR NEXT WEEK & WEEK 5.

Health & Physical Education Shelley Stringer—HPE Teacher

Term 3 HPE at SFX

This term in HPE we are learning about Basketball. Each week we explore one of the fundamental skills needed to be a competent basketball player. This week we are learning how to be good dribblers, last week it was all about passing and over the coming weeks we will learn how to defend, shoot and rebound.

Next week we are excited to try out our brand-new basketball rings that Mrs Caporn kindly put together during the holidays. We might even have some special visitors join us for lessons from the Mackay Basketball stadium! **Miss Stringer—HPE Teacher**



Rock Pop Mime—2021

A HUGE congratulations to SFX Team Pirates for achieving 2nd Place in this year's RockPop Mime competition at the MECC. Our Year 6 Team performed brilliantly and wowed us with their talents. Thank you Mrs Rackham, Mrs Perrson and all the helpers for ensuring our performers shone so brightly on stage! They were amazing! Thank you so much to the Lions Club, Mackay for hosting this wonderful event each year!



P&F ~ What's Happening

P&F Meeting

Thank you to our parents, friends and guardians who attended our P&F meeting last week. We achieved a great outcome, thank you! We invite you to our next meeting to discuss the upcoming events we have planned. Next meeting date: Tuesday 24 August, 6.00pm in the staffroom. Please mark this date on your calendar.

Volunteers

We have a number of events throughout the year and with your help, many hands make light work. To have all parents and friends enjoy our events too, we ask that you offer any time you



Yesterday, Today, Tomorrow

Sunday August 1st, our school is hosting an Open Day and we encourage you to all attend for your children to show off their school. This will be a fabulous event and hope to see you all there. **Don't forget your cash!**

Disco - August 13th - Please mark date on your calendar.

We are excited to have our second Disco for the year - Tickets will be on sale in the UCA soon for \$5 per family. Our Year 6 students have chosen a **"Scary theme"**, so please start thinking of your costumes. There will be best dressed and best dancer prizes - even for our parents and friends!

Please remember to have cash for the event. Helpers are very much appreciated for the evening.

Xmas Fair Twilight Markets

This year, we get to have our Xmas Fair Twilight Markets!

We will have a massive night planned. Rides, markets, stalls - you name it... it's there. The P&F request that each grade assists in the making of a fabulous event with helpers and contributions to the event. We are requesting a year co-ordinator just to make light work with many hands. You are still able to spend the evening with your children, we request a little help to get the ball rolling with the full support of the P&F team. If you can help out or interested to know a little more, please reach out to us at SFXM_PandFSecretary@rok.catholic.edu.au

Uniform Shop

Just a reminder the uniform shop is open every Monday morning from 8.15am - 8.30am in the school hall. **Don't forget your cash!**

Upcoming dates

Please note, we ask for volunteers to help at our if events.

Friday 13 August: Disco—Theme: **"SCARY"**

Tuesday 24 August: P&F Meeting-6.00pm-Staffroom

Tuesday 31 August & Wednesday 1 September: Father's Day Stall

Thursday 2 September: Father's Day Liturgy

Friday 5 November: Xmas Fair Twilight Markets 5.00pm-9.00pm

Did you know?

Australia has three times more sheep than people.

PLEASE MARK DATES ON YOUR CALENDAR

No Scaredy Cats Webinar for Parents



Hosted by Michael Hawton, psychologist this child development course will teach parents the skills to identify, manage and challenge anxious behaviours and build resilience in 2-12 year olds.

Held over 3 evening sessions - \$59

11th, 18th & 25th August - 6.30pm - 8.30pm AEST

www.parentshop.com.au/no-scaredy-cats-for-parents/

Webinar for Parents
of 2 - 12 year olds

A webinar for parents to learn simple strategies to reduce anxiety and build resilience in your child

ENROL NOW!

NO SCAREDY CATS

This interactive webinar offers parents of 2-12 year-olds reliable and easy-to-implement strategies to help parents identify and challenge anxious behaviours and build resilience in their child.

Held over 3 interactive webinar sessions

Over 3 sessions you will learn to:

- Identify and combat your child's anxious behaviours.
- Learn simple strategies to reduce anxiety.
- Build resilience in your child for greater social and academic success.
- Improve your parenting confidence and family bonds.

Tickets on Sale
\$99 per person

"Good for learning practical aspects of parenting regarding building resilient kids - All with a neat scientific background to assist in understanding." RHEA, PARENT.

"Very practical, user-friendly evidence based information to support parents, so they can better support their children." TRACEY, SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

Join over 110,000 parents who have already participated in our courses

Recommended by child & family specialists

<https://www.parentshop.com.au/no-scaredy-cats-for-parents/>

Mackay Youth Support Services

Who's in Charge?

Does your child threaten, hurt or intimidate you?
Do you feel you are losing control?
Want to better handle conflict?



Reclaim respect and calm in your family!

The *Who's in Charge?* group is an 8 week program for parents or carers of young people (8 to 18) who are exhibiting challenging behaviour.

The group aims to

- Provide a supportive environment to share experiences and ideas
- Reduce the guilt and shame which most parents feel
- Offer ideas to help you develop individual strategies for managing your child's behaviour
- Explore ways of increasing safety and well-being
- Help parents feel more in control and less stressed

FREE

Starting: Tuesday 20th July 9.30am - 11.30am
Thursday 22nd July 10.30am - 12.30pm
Thursday 22nd July 5:00pm - 7.00pm

Groups run for 8 weeks.

Contact:

Karen Tomlinson 4951 4299 0417 223 747

u-nite@myss.org.au

CASA Office, Corr Gregory & Alfred Sts, Mackay