



Date: 06 August 2020 Issue no.: 23

CASTLE NEWSletter

CURRO
Castle
Aurora

Positive Characteristics to teach your child

The month of August sheds light on the empowerment of woman and the tribute to their strength and achievements. It is a time to reflect how we treat each other as individuals and how we model our behavior in front of our children. During this month we are given the opportunity to talk openly with our children when the ask "Why is there a woman's day?" Parents of daughters may encourage their girls to be strong and independent, show courage and perseverance. Parents of boys may encourage them to show respect and mindfulness, to be strong, yet compassionate.



It is vital all woman and men treat each other with respect and dignity. Positive character attributes can be nurtured from a young age. At the Castle we create many character-building opportunities and focus on developing the holistic child.

10 Key Characteristics You Need to Teach Your Child

by Elizabeth Street

Most concerned parents are involved in their children's education because they want them to be successful adults. They meet with their children's teachers and ensure that homework is completed on time. In online classes, parents become Learning Coaches for their children. But as important as academic learning is, it is only one part of a child's total education. Cultivating positive characteristics is arguably just as important.

There are a number of character traits that children need to learn to be successful in life, and to be well-rounded people. Many of these traits will not only serve children well in their adult years but will also aid them in achieving academically. The following are ten essential character traits all children need to learn early in life and continue to develop in their adult years.

Curiosity



Children's natural curiosity can seem like an annoyance to busy parents, but it is an important trait that should not be stifled. Many of the world's leading inventors and entrepreneurs point to their natural curiosity as the roots of their successes. "Curiosity is one of the most permanent and certain characteristics of a vigorous intellect," observed author Samuel Johnson. Curiosity can make learning more interesting and result in more active rather than passive thinking, which is good for the brain. "For too many children, curiosity fades," explains Dr. Bruce D. Perry, M.D., Ph.D. "Curiosity dimmed is a future denied." Be sure to encourage your kids' curiosity, take them to new places and teach them new things. Ask them questions to keep them interested in the world around them.

Social Skills

Social interaction is a basic part of life for both children and adults. So, learning appropriate social skills is essential. Children with good social skills tend to do better in school, have a better self-image and are better at resolving conflicts. Some children are born with the charm and outgoing personality needed to get along with others, but for some, socialising may be more difficult. Just playing with other children is helpful, but when social skills are a

challenge, parents can use activities to build up these skills in children, such as learning to read facial expression or playing charades to pick up on body language.

Resilience

Life can be hard, even for children. Everyone needs some level of resilience to get through the tough times. When children learn to be resilient, they are better able to deal with the traumas and difficulties they will surely face. Many parents understandably try to shield their children from painful situations, but teaching them resilience will serve them better in the long run. If your child is having a problem in school or with friends, try problem-solving together so he learns how to manage the problem, instead of just running away from it. And parents can help children put their problems in perspective, so they learn most problems are not as big or as insurmountable as they may first seem.



Integrity

Often, it is not until children do something dishonest that parents have a discussion with them about what it means to have integrity. But ideally children should learn this characteristic before they are faced with challenging ethical questions. Discuss your family values with your children and try asking what your child would do if faced with ethical dilemmas, such as seeing a friend steal from another student's desk or cheating to get better grades. Talking through these questions will help prepare a child for real life situations.

Resourcefulness

Resourcefulness—finding solutions to problems—is a trait that businesses look for in employees and it should be developed in childhood. When children have all their needs met, they are not often called upon to be resourceful. Having the Internet and limitless apps at their fingertips is convenient, but not helpful in building resourcefulness in children. So, parents should work to nurture this trait in their children. Try some activities that will help your child to be resourceful and think out-of-the-box. For example, challenge them to create new uses for old objects, such as plastic bottles, an egg carton or rubber bands.

Creativity

Most think of artistic expression when hearing the word “creativity,” but it encompasses more than that. It involves imagination and creative expression in whatever form that takes. In addition to academic endeavours, children should take time for creative activities, such as music, photography, theatre, making creations from clay or other materials, visiting museums and nature preserves, as well as drawing and painting. Fostering creativity in children will benefit them in other ways as well, including building their communications skills, improving their cognitive abilities such as problem-solving, and developing their emotional development. Experts also advise that children are given free time without the screen time every day to develop their own creative thought. “Kids without freedom to play won't find their creative selves,” says paediatrician Kenneth R. Ginsburg, M.D.



Empathy

In a study by Harvard University's Making Caring Common Project, 80 percent of kids surveyed said they valued achievement or happiness over caring for others. And those surveyed were three times more likely to agree with the statement, “My parents are prouder if I get good grades than if I'm a caring community member.” It's up to parents to encourage children's natural sense of empathy for others and to stress the importance of caring for others as much as

getting good grades. Raising empathetic children is not just good for the community; it will also help them to have better emotional intelligence and maybe even be more successful. There are a number of ways to build your children's empathy, including modelling empathy and expanding your children's outer circle to include people different from themselves, and that can even include diverse characters in books and movies.

Assertiveness

Somewhere between being overly aggressive and painfully timid lies assertiveness. It involves being bold and confident, and speaking up when necessary but still remaining respectful. Being assertive "fosters insight, wisdom, patience, tolerance, confidence and acceptance," says Lisa M. Schab, author of *Cool, Calm and Confident: A Workbook to Help Kids Learn Assertiveness Skills*. "It is the necessary building block to mature and peaceful relationships between all human beings." Steps to teach assertiveness include explaining the various communication styles and role-playing different scenarios to teach the child how being assertive can be effective.

Humility

There is an important balance between having positive self-esteem and remaining humble that all children and adults need to learn. In today's parenting culture that emphasises praise and validation, it can be a challenge to ensure that children still have humility. Kids who lack humility may grow up to be arrogant adults, and no one wants that. Yet humility can be in harmony with confidence and positive self-esteem because when a child is self-assured and does not feel inferior to others, he won't feel the need to brag about his talents and achievements. Teaching humility to children begins with modelling it. Parents should admit when they've made a mistake or don't know the answer and be willing to give credit to others. Then they can encourage children to do the same. Role-playing games and praising humility when kids demonstrate it is also helpful.

Confidence

Experts say that having positive self-esteem has a strong correlation to behaviour and happiness, so teaching a child to have confidence is important. "Because there is such a strong parallel between how your child feels about himself and how he acts," says William Sears, MD, "it is vital to discipline to raise a confident child." Experts suggests realistically praising your child—constant and excessive praise is not effective—and rewarding positive behaviour rather than focusing on bad behaviour. Also allowing children to fail at times and to overcome obstacles on their own will build their confidence for future endeavours. Remember, they won't always have parents to help them out, and will need to believe they can face challenges on their own.

There is a lot to learn in life that goes far beyond the academics of math, science and literature, and many of these lessons must come first from parents in the home. Be sure your children learn these important life lessons, so they'll be well-rounded, happy and successful adults!

<https://www.learningliftoff.com/10-key-characteristics-you-need-to-teach-your-child/>



Welcome to our new little friend Aurora in Group 3.

Term Three Castle Calendar

BACKWARDS
DAY

Backwards day – Group A Thursday 13 August

Backwards Day – Group B Friday 14 August

Arbour Week

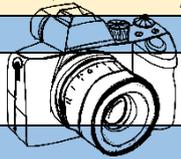
Monday to Friday 31 August – 4
September

Arbour Day Planting – Group B

Thursday 3 September

Arbour Day Planting – Group A

Friday 4 September



School Photos

Tuesday 1 September to Friday 4
September

International Literacy day – Dress up and donate a book –
Group A

Tuesday 8 September

International Literacy day – Dress up and donate a book –
Group B

Wednesday 9 September

Online Grandparents' Poetry morning – Group A

Thursday 17 September

Online Grandparents' Poetry morning – Group B

Friday 18 September

TEAMS Parents consults

Monday 14 September – Thursday 17
September

Class Photos

Put on your best smile and say 'cheese'.

Date: 1 September to 4 September 2020



Your class teacher will communicate the specific day.

#Learners2Leaders

CURRO
Castle
Aurora

ARBOUR WEEK

31 August to 4 September 2020

Planting day: 3 September – Group B | 4 September – Group A



We will plant our spekboompies and families are also welcome to sponsor a tree.

#Learners2Leaders

CURRO
Castle
Aurora

Backwards Day

It's time to turn things around and have some fun!



Dates: 13 August 2020 – Group A | 14 August 2020 – Group B

#Learners2Leaders

CURRO
Castle
Aurora



Group Dates: Returning to School

6 July	Group A	3 August	Group A	September	Group B
13 July	Group B	11 August	Group A	14 September	Group B
20 July	Group A	17 August	Group A	21 September	Group A
27 July	Group B	24 August	Group B	28 September (school reopens for term 4)	Group B
		31 August	Group A		

A
reminder
Monday
11 August
GROUP A

IMPORTANT!



#Learners2Leaders

CURRO
Castle
Aurora



Important reminders



Please ONLY make use of the CASTLE gate in the morning, unless your child has a sibling in the primary school



Morning drop off is from 07:15 to 08:15



Please add your FAMILY CODE in all correspondence with the school

International Literacy Day

Come to school dressed as your favourite storybook character.

Dates: Tuesday,
8 September 2020 – Group A
Wednesday,
9 September 2020 – Group B

Entry fee:
Donate a new or second-hand book (in good condition) for the Castle library. Great prizes to be won!



A surprise guest will come and read to the children on the day ...

#Learners2Leaders

087 087 0355
info@aurora.co.za

www.curro.co.za

CURRO
Castle
Aurora







Curro Sport

Introducing our new challenge for August: #MoveIt!

We're inviting all our Curro learners, parents, and teachers to join! Since this is a family/group orientated challenge, the winning dance (one on Facebook and one on Instagram) will each win a R500 Checkers voucher!

How will it work?

We will post 1 video every week for the next 4 weeks - each showcasing a new dance move taught to you by Vicky from V Dance and Fitness. In week 5 we'll post a video where all of the moves are put together to make a whole dance and that's when you will get those bodies moving and send us your own video doing the dance and adding your own twists and turns to it!

These videos must be sent to challenges@curro.co.za between 31 August and 4 September (17:00). Remember to incorporate all 4 moves into your dance!

Winners will be announced on Monday, 7 September.
#MoveIt! #YourMove

Group 3 to 5 Virtual Classrooms

During Lockdown the Group 3 to 5 teachers introduced their virtual libraries filled with fun stories for the children.

Exciting News – Every day you will now receive a virtual classroom via WhatsApp. All the days remote lessons will be found in one classroom. Previously all the lessons were sent separately. The teachers have created an amazing classroom for you and your child to explore.

What will you find?

Daily EDLA lesson / HiMama activity / Story / Science experiment / Creative activity

How does it work? Look out for the colour boxes in the classroom. Tap on the box and the link will direct you to the lesson.



Curro Castle Extra-Murals

Due to the current RTS (Return to school) plans and SOP (School Operating Procedures our Extra-Murals are still on hold to return back to the Castle campus.

A number of our extra-murals are still running their programmes online. Below are the details, if you would like to continue with their programme.



Orders can be placed by sending a WhatsApp to Zelda on 083 377 3440.

I wish all the Castle families a relaxing and enjoyable long weekend.
We will see Group A on Tuesday 11 August!

Yours in Education,

Angie Bezuidenhout
Head of Caste

#Learners2Leaders

Castle Reception – 087 087 7790

