

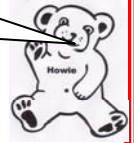


Curriculum Chatter

No. 6 2006

PORTFOLIO ASSESSMENT

How can I help?



Guidelines for responding to your child's portfolio.

This is an out line of the parent response sheet, which is being sent home with your child's portfolio.

We would like the completed response sheet to be returned to your child's classroom teacher next **Tuesday 13th June**, prior to your interview. When the half-year reporting process is complete the response sheet will be returned to your child to be stored in their portfolio Please remember to bring the portfolio back with you when you attend the interview.

1. In the first section responses are framed in such a way to ensure the message is directed to the child.

("In looking at your work so far, I/we would like to compliment you on")

Nothing succeeds like success. As you look through the pages of your child's portfolio with them, look for their successes. Compliment your child on his or her work samples eg. the presentation, the detail of his or her writing, the imaginative drawing used to represent information, the reflection and self-assessment. Let his or her written comments be your guide. Look for growth over time and be sure to talk about what you see!

(The most important thing I/we would like to say to you now is")

After listening to your compliments, your child will be ready to listen to your wishes. Be selective about wishes for improvement. Giving too many wishes may do more harm than good. Choose one or two areas that are important and that you feel your child is capable of improving. As a rule of thumb, we suggest two compliments before one wish.

("As your parent(s), I/we")

Here you may like to round off your comments with an overall positive response, which lets your child know that you are encouraging and supporting them as much as you possibly can.

2. This section allows your child to briefly describe aspects of their portfolio that they are most proud of

("In my portfolio I am proud of")

3. The final section of the response sheet is directed to your child's teacher.

"Dear (Teacher's name)

I/we would like to let you know that....."

Here you have the opportunity to communicate your general response to the portfolio itself and any questions that you may have about your child's social and/or academic involvement in programs, etc which may be further addressed at the interview.

Please don't feel confined either way by the layout of the response form. The detail of your response is up to you. If you do run out of space in any section and would like to write more, you could continue on the back of the sheet.

Your positive involvement throughout this process will be much appreciated by your child and their teacher, however brief or detailed you wish it to be.

Also have a look at our **"Wellbeing Wisdom"** insert this week written by Michael Grose. It contains a lot of very good advice and suggestions for parents at report time.

Robyne Byron-Smith

Assistant Principal (Curriculum & Staff Development)