Wouldn’t it be fantastic if there were a service we could call at any time of the day that would answer any tricky question that our children asked us? Imagine how much better we would feel if we knew that a child expert was on hand to support us with sharing words of wisdom that would be 100% guaranteed to be the right response. Even for simple things like... 'why do I need to brush my teeth?' I mean, it’s easy to just say, ‘Because the dentist is scary and the less time that you have them prodding away in your mouth the better’. Children relate to the word ‘scary’. But, is making them do something because of fear the best approach? I’m not saying I’ve used my personal dentist experience as a child to encourage my children to brush properly for 2 minutes twice a day. I’m just saying that it has crossed my mind. Ok, maybe I haven’t used the word scary…but...look...I might have suggested that they shouldn’t be fooled by the cool dentist chair...or the better you brush the more you will enjoy the TV on the roof thing...I mean...that would be ridiculous of me to say stuff like that...ok...maybe, I’ve mumbled it to myself once...or twice...

Anyway, this is why I think we would all feel much better if we could call upon someone during the exact moment to help us sort out the situation in the best possible manner. Someone who has no emotional attachment!

Like the other night...

You see, my youngest daughter has more confidence than both Bernard Tomic and Nick Kyrgios put together. It is an aspect of her personality that I love but it also presents some challenging moments for her.
As with all children, my youngest daughter is going through a stage at the moment where she believes that she has conquered the art of singing!

This belief has not come about because she has attended years of singing lessons or natural ability (for those that have heard my attempts at singing over the PA systems on the very few occasions would have noticed that there is no chance that I will ever be invited to perform for ‘The Voice’). No, the reason as to why she has suddenly become a talented singer (in her mind) is because she extends and vibrates the ending of each word of a song. If you are having trouble understanding this, just imagine someone singing while gargling water. The first time she shared her new style with me I was in so much shock because she was so proud of how she thought she sounded that the only thing I could say was. ‘Oh. That’s good.’

My response of, ‘Oh. That’s good’ resulted in 5 days non-stop of my daughter singing the same song around the house using her unique voice (she even gave me looks while she was singing as if to say ‘How good am I!’). She even planned to sing a song to her grade with a group of her friends!

Well, thinking that she would over time realize that maybe her vocal chords needed to be trained or that maybe singing just wasn’t her thing, my daughter came home from school completely devastated.

When I asked her what had happened, she said that a boy at school said that she can’t sing! I said, what do you mean he said you can’t sing. She said, he just said I couldn’t sing. I said what he just walked up to you and said you can’t sing. She said, no, I sang a song to him with my new voice. Ok.

I think an important message that children need to be given is that we might not be good at everything. That some people are great singers, or artist, or readers, or writers or spellers or gardeners. Some people are just naturally good at these things and some people work really hard to be good at things.

What I should have said is that it is great that she is trying different things to improve her singing voice but it is something that requires a lot of practise. Good singers have lots of lessons. You see, this is what I think about now. I’m not sure it’s right but surely it is good for her resilience and development as a person to accept honest feedback. Recognizing your strengths and knowing your weaknesses is so important!

Anyway, this is what I’m talking about! Imagine if we could say to our children during a challenging experience to freeze for a few minutes while we make a call to an expert of this situation to ensure that things are handled correctly.

Or is this just the joy of being a parent! Would being a parent be any fun if we believed we had to do things perfectly every second of the day? I know that the ‘big question’ is coming up soon! Hopefully I still have a few years left to prepare myself for that conversation. Any advice for future conversations would be greatly appreciated!

Jeff Wilson will be returning to work with me over the next two weeks to learn more about the role of a principal.

Alex Artavilla
Principal
Sunshine Heights Primary School

What I really should of said when my daughter came to me to show me her new style was, ‘That’s terrible! It sounds like something is stuck in your throat’ (just kidding).

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**UPLIFT COLLECTIVE FUNDRAISING NEWS**

*Raising extra funds for kids, thanks to the work of our students!*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Easter Raffle</td>
<td>$1,155.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mothers’ Day</td>
<td>$ 812.37</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
STUDENT OF THE WEEK
Presentation at Friday Assembly

Prep:
A  Emin Agilgak
B  Elvis Vai
C  Zara Artufel
D  Jade Duvcevski

One:
A  Jayden Lombardi
B  Vanessa Nguyen

Two
1/2A  Mallak Dib
2A  Jesminder Oosterlaak
2B  Alex Kuloski

Three:
A  Adrian Singh
B  Dina Yatim

Four:
A  Olivia Camilleri
B  Anna Lam

Five:
A  Athena Evgeniadis
B  Ajshe Fejzullahu

Six:
A  Kim Nguyen
B  Kaltuun Mohamed

Multimedia:  Hunter Corcoran Taylor
Sport:  TBA
Spanish:  Michael Woodford
Art:  Aung Myint Ba Aye

Congratulations Everyone
Great Achievement!
**Literacy and Numeracy Tips of the Week**

**Literacy Tip:** Keep a calendar on display and write down family and school events. Talk about upcoming events with your child, for example, where, when and who will be there.

**Numeracy Tip:** Collect food and grocery items and label them with prices written on sticky notes or prices cut out of shopping catalogues.

**Useful Literacy and Numeracy Websites**

**Literacy Websites:**

2. www.studyladder.com.au
3. www.starfall.com
4. www.tumblebooks.com

**Numeracy Websites:**

2. www.studyladder.com.au
4. www.coolmath-games.com

*Sonia Papadopoulos - Literacy  
Gail Liakoureas - Numeracy*
next session:
Friday 14 August
2-2.30 & 3-3.30
(before and after assembly)
in the room next to the Spanish Room

Come and swap your unwanted school uniform items with something else you need.
If you don’t have anything to swap, you can buy a piece for a gold coin.

Donations accepted anytime!
Place your unwanted items in the blue wheelie bin near the office.