



CHRIST SENIOR SECONDARY SCHOOL, GUNA



LETTER TO THE PARENTS ON PROJECTS & ACTIVITIES DURING THE SUMMER HOLIDAYS

My Dear and beloved Parents and Students,

Greetings from Christ School, Guna

The school is getting ready with the summer holiday projects and activities etc. We have almost one and half months with us. In fact I would like to propose you something different for this summer holidays for you and your kids. It may not be anything new but something different from the normal. It's high time that we think out of the box. As you understand, we are at the threshold of history especially the new generation, who have lost touch with many of the realities of life. Definitely we need to accept the fact that it may not be any of their faults. Covid19 and the aftermaths which brought about drastic changes in the life and thinking of the people and the circumstances thereafter and the turn of the events or situations then, played pivotal role in the transformation of the society. The most affected being the new Gen. So don't we feel that we have a moral responsibility to show them something different and give them an experience of the realities of life, which they had been robbed off or deprived off?

I would suggest a few practical tips that can stir your mind, which all of us can practice in our families, to rebuild the trust and confidence, thereby revamp the families and revitalize the society. Let's try to reload ourselves to face the challenges bluntly and squarely.

1. Make it a point to have at least two meals – Breakfast and dinner- with the kids, the entire family joining, especially during the holidays (Other times I would suggest at least one meal preferably Dinner) . The meal time is an occasion to strengthen the family bonds. During the meal time say bye to your mobiles. Keep it away for half an hour and it helps you to have deeper family conversations. Also we can impart some life lessons to the kids during this time by teaching them not to waste food. I am really pained at the sight of the amount of food being wasted, when I join some programmes. Let our kids learn the lessons from our family itself the value of respecting and saving food.

Also let's learn to thank our "Annadadas" – our farmers- who toil hard to sustain us. Let us try to nurture these habits of thankfulness and gratitude in our youngsters especially gratitude in life for everything that we are blessed with.

2. We can gently teach our kids another lesson for life by letting them wash their plates and glasses and engage them in daily chores as it can make them understand the value of hard work. It's not because you are not able to afford the services of servants, but to let them understand what is life, and prepare them to face challenges what the life might throw at and make them strong, content and self reliant.

Also the moms can seek the support of the family in preparing the food – washing vegetables and fruits, slicing them, setting the table, moping the table etc. These all may seem simple and silly but it has got a value in life which our kids need to imbibe. They will start respecting work.

3. Another aspect which I suggest is visiting the elders in the family – grandparents, uncles, aunts etc. and spending some quality time with them also visiting our neighbours. These I suggest as now a days the life has become very much mechanical and we forget about the value of human relationships, as most of the time we are living in our on self-made cocoons, cut off from the real world. It's good that our

children have a firsthand experience of the real world around and start appreciating and respecting relationships.

4. If possible you can take your kids to a local market to do some household shopping. You can also take them to a nearby farm where some agriculture activities are on – Vegetable garden – to give them a real smell and flavor of hard life. I also would suggest you take them to the office or place of your work, that they can understand how you manage life. For the Kids Parents are their real heroes and heroines. Let them learn from their real life heroes.
5. If you can afford you can take the kids to some Historical places, to visit a few Historical monuments around that are historically and culturally significant to give a taste of our legacy and cultural richness, places of worship of different religions to understand the beauty and the cultural diversity of our motherland as well as the secular fabric of our country.
6. Vacation is the time to help the kids to develop a few of their tastes and talents and to nurture some hobbies – plant a few saplings either in the garden or pots. If you don't have space you may do it in the public places and ensure to maintain it or at least some potable plants which one can take care at home. It is good to nurture these habits at a younger stage as it can help the child to have concentration, patience and perseverance which give them lessons for life and to help them to take care of things in life in future.
7. More than anything else, dear parents give a couple of your quality hours to your kids. Spent some time with them, interacting with them. Saint Chavara says, 'Children are God's gift to you, they are God's investment into your hands.' 'The children who have love of God and fear of God will love and respect their parents.' This is what each parent should look for, every society desires – that the children are groomed into mature people, elegant citizens- moreover, humane and excellent human beings who contribute to the family, society and the country at large. Your spending of the quality time with the kids will keep them united and attached to the family, strengthening the family bonds. It is the need of the time as the family bonds are becoming weaker day by day.
8. Provide the kids with some reading materials-books on biographies, history, motivational stories, speeches etc. according to the age. Let the kids spent some time on their creative works, be it drawing, painting or other various activities to freshen up their minds.
9. I would suggest if possible there should be a fasting on mobiles, mobile games, internet, TV etc. and other social media for some hours at least, each day, as they are not going to help in the long run. If at all needed, there should be strict restriction on the time spent on these gadgets. Instead let them have a feasting on the books, creative works, hobbies etc. that are proposed earlier according to each ones interest.

These are a few of the suggestions how we can fruitfully engage our children more effectively and efficiently and help them to become better human beings, who can well fit into the society, strengthening the family bonds .

May I wish you fruitful holidays and a wonderful time ahead. God bless each of you, your kids and your families.

Yours Lovingly

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