



## Interactive Parent Workshops

Nicole Laube  
Deputy Principal – Dean of Faculty (R–12)

The young men of Rostrevor are naturally inquisitive, caring, energetic and love to be involved as active learners. In 2021, we have engaged in a key focus on Literacy and Numeracy as core skills to support our boys in every avenue of everyday life.

Our aim is to continue to build on those dispositions as we promote critical and creative thinkers who can use these key skills to infer, inquire, debate, question, synthesise and articulate the many wonderful thoughts that are ever abundant in their expanding minds.

It can sometimes be challenging to assist our boys to be still as they love to be active, and our learning activities are expansive to allow many opportunities for this. This mode also allows them to delve deeply into subjects and areas of interest as they continue to develop their wide repertoire of literacy skills that will assist in all areas of life.

We also get to see their moments of delight as they find out something new, laugh as they make connections, ponder what they already know as they compare the themes in their literature or celebrate moments of awe and wonder.

Children's literature and numeracy takes a central role in the Australian Curriculum. Building a tantalising/authentic classroom library of 'needs-based' books the students can choose from is key.

It is this choice that research tells us is a central aspect to engaging readers, and when our boys are interested in learning more about a topic, they can expand their knowledge and understanding. Aside from the academic outcomes, there are also the simple joys and rewards that come from being lost in a good book, and the natural balance reading provides to their physical and digital pursuits.

We have been working with Sharon Callen, from Cue Learning, a Literacy consultant who has worked with many different sectors in South Australia and New York. Rostrevor staff have also been engaged in an Eastern Star Numeracy Project with Lisa Jane O Connor, the President of the Primary Maths Association. The aim of our inquiry is quite simple, continuing to enjoy a love of learning and working together to build a rich culture of vibrant learners.

We are hosting some interactive parent workshops as we know that the partnership between home and school allows these skills to grow and develop.



Our first round of workshops focuses on "Supporting your Child in Maths (Reception to Year 6)". Please see the flyer with details on how to enrol on Qkr! In the meantime, continue to encourage your son to build or design a new object, read instructions or a treasured family story book, explore statistics on their favourite sports team or whatever it is that inspires him.

In our busy, complex lives it can be difficult to take a breath and simply be but let's all set this as a challenge for 2021. Enjoy those family moments of calm and togetherness in the wonder of a book or the enjoyment of a new puzzle or problem to solve. We hope to see many of you at one of our upcoming workshops.