

## Parent Evening 20.02.13



### **COMMUNICATING WITH MY SON**

Pascal Rohan (Director of Student Wellbeing)  
and members of the Student Wellbeing Team:

Shane Howard, Remy Cadman, Ben Ahearn, Connor Punshon, Gianluca Intemerato, Nick Paspaliaris.

---

#### **What does work:**

- Understanding developmental processes (embeddedness, disembedding, interiority, integration)
- Using a phenomenological approach – particularly effective with boys ... keeps it “real”
- Taking notice of what boys say

#### **What doesn't work:**

- The opposite of the above
- Pestering
- Blowing up
- Making little things, big things
- Behaving as though they know it all
- Jumping to conclusions and making hasty decisions

#### **What boys won't talk about ... (so pull back a bit)**

- Girls
- Their bodies
- What they do on social media
- What I do with my friends
- Who I do and do not like
- The amount of stress I have

#### **SWT boys' tips for parents:**

- In arguments, be more interested in resolution than the argument and point scoring
  - Pay attention to your son's developing age and parent accordingly
  - Let your son have his say – don't talk over him
  - Be interested ... but not over-interested
  - Get to the point – no lectures
  - Let your son “sleep on it” – don't demand a “Now” response
  - Communicate love even when punishing
  - You know your son – select the right time to talk about important matters
  - Set guidelines but don't be too strict
  - Realise that boys and girls can be best friends – it's not always about sex
  - Be happy that your son does his homework and is up to date – and don't go overboard and ask for more
  - Threats don't produce good communication and make situations worse – leave them out of your communication
-

**More online: “Student Wellbeing” site on Moodle**

To access:

1. Go to Moodle
  2. Click on Student Wellbeing link
  3. Scroll down to access (a) counsellors' contact details; (b) student submissions; (c) herpetology club; (d) **parent pages**
- 

**More info: Book: “Boys and the F Word” by Pascal Rohan**

**RRP: \$32.99 For DLS parents: \$20 if collected. \$25 if posted**

visit - [www.prohancounselling.com](http://www.prohancounselling.com) and let me know if you prefer post or pick-up

**Inside the book**

Fact 1 Boys move through predictable developmental phases

Fact 2 Communication – you can stuff it up and you can get it right!

Fact 3 Teaching is a relational reality

Fact 4 A brat is not necessarily a brat

Fact 5 Boys' exaggerated behaviour is usually a protective cover

Fact 6 Stinking thinking leads to stress

Fact 7 You can move those mountains of sh\*\* – homework & organisation

Fact 8 Anger – it can be good, it can be dangerous – your choice

Fact 9 Depression and self-esteem – you can raise them both

Fact 10 Actors and reactors – they separate the boys from the men

Fact 11 When the going gets tough you need resilience

Fact 12 Atticus Finch got it wrong!

Fact 13 Fear and Risk – you need these experiences!

Fact 14 Little pricks discriminate and are unhappy

Fact 15 Boys can tell adults what works and what doesn't in terms of communicating with them

Fact 16 Boys can be educators (1). A group of angry boys can be positively powerful and a group of socially withdrawn boys can become effective communicators

Fact 17 Boys can be educators (2). Boys can conduct informative parent evenings

Fact 18 Medusa, the pet snake, aids therapy

Fact 19 Teachers know what works and what doesn't in educating boys

Fact 20 This wellbeing model for schools, works!