

Counselor's Corner February 8, 2021

Embracing Our Catholic Education

As we conclude the celebration of *Catholic Schools Week*, it has been a wonderful opportunity to reflect on what the gift of Catholic education means. Here at Seton, everyone is dedicated to educating the whole child in a God-centered environment. Every moment of the day, students are encouraged to live in the light of Christ's teachings, and to share that light with others.

It often has been said that it takes a village to educate a child. There are some universally important values and qualities that are crucial for healthy growth. Here is a short list to consider, and to discuss how they are included in your child's daily learning experiences:

- *Curiosity and Thirst for Learning:* Encouraging curiosity contributes to expansion of knowledge and development of interests. Books are a great ally in this endeavor. Notice and foster your child's interests, and encourage your child to be observant.
- *Sense of Responsibility:* Help children to understand that actions involve responsibility. Recognizing errors and successes is an important part of learning.
- *Honesty and Integrity:* Honesty helps a child mature into an adult who is upright and respectable. Modeling steadfastness and integrity are essential in helping children learn these concepts.
- *Patience:* This precious virtue is a difficult quality to acquire and maintain, but very useful to those who practice it. Helping children learn how to wait helps them gain awareness of the need for patience. Independent children learn to occupy themselves while waiting.
- *Respect:* This is a foundational quality in the education of a child. It involves many aspects of life – the people around us, the environment, and life in all its forms. Respect invites reciprocity. In respecting your children, you teach them to respect others.
- *Kindness and Compassion:* Kindness is the defining quality of the human heart. Encourage your children to notice how it feels to be kind and to receive kindness. This helps them appreciate the value of helping others, and helps to develop empathy.
- *Perseverance:* Help children to set realistic goals and to value effort over results. Encouraging perseverance helps children achieve goals and not get discouraged at every difficulty or failure.

Source: www.aleteia.org