

8 TIPS FOR BETTER COMMUNICATION WITH PARENTS

- *At the start of the year, clearly explain to parents how you'll be communicating with them throughout the year and how they can get in touch with you.*
- *"Train" parents to look out for the channels you set up. So, if you say you'll be putting information on the blog or in a weekly email, stay consistent and do it or don't expect that parents will keep checking.*
- *Ensure all parents can access your communication channels (i.e. make sure there aren't technology or language barriers to be aware of).*
- *Besides regular ongoing updates, be sure to contact parents personally if any other issues arise. Nip issues in the bud quickly. Unexpected positive feedback from teachers can also be extremely powerful!*
- *Tell parents a bit about yourself. You don't have to tell them everything but a strong teacher-parent relationship will build trust and respect.*
- *Don't double handle by offering the analogue replica of the digital communication (unless there are access issues).*
- *Ensure some of your communication channels are truly two-way. Listen to parents and seek feedback.*
- *Empower students to get involved in the communication channels. Students will benefit from the opportunity and parents may be more likely to listen!*