

**PARENTING TIPS**  
from  
**Community Parenting Service**  
**6a Penrith Place**  
**BALGA WA 6061**  
**Phone: 9440 0011**  
**Opening Times: Monday - Friday 12pm to 4pm**

### **Helping with Literacy**

Most parents are aware of the importance of their role in helping young learners develop literacy skills. The early experiences at home provide the basis for future learning. As children progress through school parents still play a vital role in helping them develop the skills of reading and writing.

Some tips for encouraging your child's literacy skills are:-

- ❖ Establish and maintain a regular reading time at home. Many children prefer to read in bed before they sleep, while others prefer to read in the morning. It is helpful if television and other distractions are turned off regularly to encourage reading.
- ❖ Provide your child with a diary so he or she can record private thoughts and personal events.
- ❖ Your behaviour sends the message that reading and writing are valuable activities, so let youngsters see you read both for enjoyment and to gain information.
- ❖ Fathers, in particular have a special role to play in their sons' literacy learning. Fathers should read to their sons (and daughters) and also let their children see them reading for pleasure.
- ❖ Write notes to your children and encourage them to write notes to you. Notes can include loving messages or reminders.
- ❖ If you have a reluctant reader in the family consult his or her teacher for a list of popular, easy to read books. Many children suddenly take on the reading habit when they discover an author that they like.
- ❖ Personal computers assist the writing process as they allow children to draft and redraft without having to rewrite their work. The use of the spell checker can help young writers who can be restricted by their spelling deficiencies.

**We invite you to visit our Centre to 'check out' the wide range of information that we have available for you to browse or borrow**