



NEWSLETTER DECEMBER AND JANUARY 2012

Hi all,

Another year gone and lots to look forward to in the New Year. Kensway is expanding and I'm hoping to get more and more schools to adopt the Kensway system into their schools. I've included a letter in this newsletter from the principal of a well-established pre-primary school that has fully implemented Kensway into her school with great effect.

I had mentioned in previous newsletters that I've had great interest in Parenting 911 from a person in the UK who flew out for a few days earlier in November in order to see the programme for herself. She attended a few workshops as well as a presentation that I gave to a well-known corporate. She returned to the UK, very excited and determined to introduce the programme there. I received the following mail from her which I thought you might find interesting.

It has been a bit like mixing oil and water, bringing two people together with children from different relationships – or maybe I should say it has been a somewhat explosive combination. Different parenting styles, 3 very different children, with completely different 'issues', added to that, two strong-willed parents who are fiercely protective and defensive over their children.

Newly wed, we had spent most of our relationship locking horns over each other's children – most of the time pointing the finger at each other and building up resentment towards the other's children and putting the blame on each other. The conflict did wonders for our relationship with each other as you can imagine– and the children of course!

It was a chance trip to join my husband in Cape Town that led us to meet up with friends of his who had been on a Kensway programme. I was struck by how polite their two boys were, and when one of them quietly took himself off to his room, the Father explained how things had been so much easier and calmer since they had been on this programme. I immediately 'jumped' on this and took Ken's details, and even my husband seemed open to the idea.

Over the following months, and numerous Skype calls with Ken, I became more and more convinced that we had found the magic formula, but increasingly frustrated that my husband wouldn't come on board or buy into everything Ken was suggesting. It was like pulling teeth... very slowly, and there's no surprise that what little we implemented, was inconsistent and misinterpreted and didn't get the results we had expected. I realise that I hadn't explained it to him properly – but I suspect it's also more difficult to hear things from your spouse sometimes! The one thing that gave me hope was that we implemented chores and earning their pocket money along with 'The Shop'. This did work – and worked brilliantly because we did it correctly!

My background has been with Dale Carnegie Training and for some time I have been planning to divert my attention from the corporate business to developing an existing programme for young people in the UK with a focus on behaviour, attitude, responsibility etc...sound familiar? But of course it all starts with the parents. There is huge need and I believe appetite in the UK for Kensway within families and schools, but before I could think of helping Ken expand to the Northern hemisphere, I knew I had to get it right at home, so I hopped on a plane and came out to Jo'burg to meet Ken.

It became very apparent that the problem wasn't with the children, but with us. I think both my husband and I had come to the point at which we were desperate enough to listen and so on my return, my

husband agreed to listen to what Ken had to say. Within 24 hours and a couple of Skype calls, Ken had managed to get us on the same page – we set rules with the children and left the ball firmly in their court. I'm not suggesting that we are getting it all right – after all, habits of a lifetime can be hard to break, but almost immediately we saw a change in my husband's son of 9 years, from being moody angry and uncooperative, to becoming more helpful, calmer, happier and able to catch himself more often to stop himself losing his temper. They have all been eager to do their chores and don't nag us for things... I was dubious however that Ken's miracle could work with my teenage step-daughter, but within half an hour of having a chat with Ken on Skype, she appeared carrying her washing and exclaimed "how much she liked this man Ken!" – what had he done?

Well it's clearly not a magic wand, because it will only work if you work it, but if you do, I'd say it's like gravity, you can't argue with it – it just works. The biggest lesson for me was realising that all the time I was pointing the finger at my husband and his children – three were pointing back at me!

We are calmer, less stressed and are enjoying our relationship more with the children and each other.

I plan to work with Ken to bring this to the UK, although I believe we are pushing on an open door!

Thank you Ken

Attention all principals and owners of pre-primary schools

As mentioned earlier in this newsletter, Kensway has been introduced to a few schools and the feedback from the principals of these schools has been very positive. Below is a letter I received from the principal of the pre-primary school mentioned above.



SNUGGLES



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Dear Ken

Thank you so much for your wonderful program.
We have successfully implemented it in our school.
My teachers are very happy with the change we see in the children with in 24hrs after starting the program and with children as young as 3 years of age.

The difference with your program is that it enables the parents and teachers to work together towards the same goal.

The previous methods resulted in irate parents accusing our teachers of "picking" on them. The teachers blamed the parents for not having discipline at home. The children of course very cleverly played the parents up against the teachers.

I have to say that your follow up training was necessary. It was after that that the teachers were able to implement the program correctly. I also started a "buddy" system. I have taken the teachers that have grasped and implemented your program with ease and allocated to them a teacher who finds it a little difficult.

If ever the teacher is not sure what number from the grid to give or how to handle a situation, they call their buddy and together they decide what to do or say. This has been fantastic and worked really well.

Because of Parenting 911, we have happy, self-controlled children, = happy content parents = happy teachers enjoying their vocation.

Thank you for always being there to help guide us. We truly appreciate it.

Yours in education

Tina Jones
Snuggles Nursery School

Any principals wanting to find out more about my programme for teachers are welcome to contact me via e-mail: ken@kensway.co.za

PARENTING 911 – WORKSHOP NEWS.

From January 2012 we are going to extending our workshops. The 'We're no Angels' workshop will consist of two sessions and the 'Rebels with Causes' workshop will be three sessions.

Have a wonderful festive season and a Happy New Year. Enjoy the break as well as your parenting.

'Til next year, have a good one

Ken