TEACHING WITH A FEATHER

A professional development program with a difference by professional educator Robyn Cotter

TWAF Journey Options

1. Making a Difference
2. Try This!
3. Winning Ways!

4. New Offer: Classroom Designs with a Purpose

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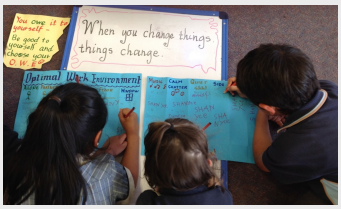

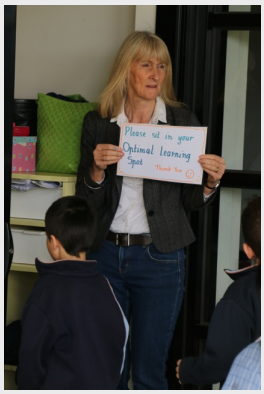

My Teaching Philosophy

'The object of teaching a child is to enable

them to get along without a teacher.'

Elbert Hubbard 1856-1915

Welcome to Teaching with a Feather

Teaching with a Feather (TWAF) is a professional development program for classroom teachers. It brings together proven techniques that stem from my life long inquiry into how to be an effective teacher. The techniques are applicable across the curriculum and were developed and implemented during my teaching career of 38 years. The program uses teaching and management strategies that enable effective engagement with students in the classroom and their ongoing engagement with the world. TWAF strategies enhance, and take advantage of, the Physical and Communication Environment you and your students create in your classroom. Read on and choose your 'Teaching with a Feather journey'.

Kind Regards

Robyn

What's involved in a *Teaching with a Feather* journey?

1. Complete the Expression of Interest form available on the website.
2. A Reflection Questionnaire will be emailed to you. Complete the questionnaire and select your 'journey option' - *Making a Difference, Try This! or Winning Ways!*
3. Return the questionnaire via email to info@teachingfeather.com Your 'journey' option and the information provided in the questionnaire will assist with tailoring the Teaching with a Feather program to your individual needs, strengths and development opportunities.
4. You will be contacted via email by Robyn to discuss and arrange meeting times and dates to begin your TWAF Journey.
5. You will be fully supported throughout the program with classroom visits, modelling, feedback, discussions and forward planning.
6. Be ready to take on new challenges, 'think differently' and enjoy a mentoring experience like no other.

Teaching with a Feather Journey - MUST DO's:

1. Use the Teaching with a Feather journal (provided) to record strategies, notes, drawings, snippets of information, ideas, quotes, problems, questions, scribbles, planning for where to next – anything that generates new thinking can be recorded.
2. Set aside time for discussions, questions and planning. This may include time at school, on-line video calls or emails.
3. Implement TWAF strategies into your day-to-day teaching program.
4. Complete a Personal Review and Survey at the end of your TWAF journey.
5. Gather students feedback using guiding questions provided by Robyn.
6. Keep in contact via email, Skype or FaceTime.

Teaching with a Feather Toolkit - MUST HAVE's

During your Teaching with a Feather journey you will need the following resources.

- Journal (supplied by Robyn)
- Posters: - Learning and Life Tips
  - I am ...
  - In this Classroom ...
  - The Parrot of Purpose
  - Choosing Time
  - TWAF Strategy Labels

All the posters and labels are available on the website for you to download.

Journey 1. Making a Difference

Create an exciting new classroom environment for you and your students.

'Making a Difference' involves Robyn working with your class while you observe, take notes and record questions you may have. Students are engaged in:

- Learning new ways of thinking and responding
- Setting up the classroom into Optimal Work Environments
- Creating a display using a combination of Teaching with a Feather posters, your teaching philosophy, students Learning Likes and Preferences and a hand made feathered Parrot of Purpose designed by the students.

The session is 'jam packed' with TWAF strategies to show you how quickly and easily they can be implemented into your own teaching program.

You will observe 'first hand' the positive responses from your students as they participate and use the strategies to their advantage.

Robyn provides a Tool Kit of TWAF strategies before the session for you to check on the website. This gives you prior knowledge concerning what strategies to expect during the session.

Note: Making a Difference can be taken during two consecutive 1 hour sessions or 2 separate 1 hour sessions. This will be negotiated with you.

Making a Difference is an exciting, challenging and powerful session that will change your perspective and thinking in relation to the teaching and management practises in your classroom.

Your students will immediately be provided with opportunities to become independent thinkers, make worthwhile decisions, problem solve, think differently, use negotiation skills to create win/win situations, work with others and make choices in real-life situations.

You will have a Teaching with a Feather package of strategies to use in your day-to-day teaching and management that will provide continuing positive outcomes for yourself and your students.

Followup visits will be planned by you and Robyn to plan 'where to next'. This will include modelled lessons by Robyn, team teaching, more observation and feedback and provision of time for you to implement and experience the new strategies for yourself.

Journey 2. Try This!

Nominate up to 4 sessions over a selected period of time for Robyn to observe your teaching and management practises plus responses from students.

Includes:

- Observation, discussion and feedback from Robyn.
- Planning with Robyn.
- Follow up includes implementation of selected strategies into your day-to-day teaching and management plus visits by Robyn to observe, plan lessons with you, model new strategies, team teach and provide feedback.

Journey 3. Winning Ways

Nominate a day to reflect on everything that happened in your classroom. List all the niggles, irritations, frustrations, annoyances, challenges and achievements experienced by you and your students.

Includes:

- Meeting with Robyn to discuss and plan appropriate strategies to suit your needs.
- Modelling of selected strategies during teaching sessions planned by you and Robyn.
- Follow up includes implementation of selected strategies into your day-to-day teaching and management plus visits by Robyn to observe, plan lessons with you, model new strategies, team teach and provide feedback.

What is involved, and how much does it cost?

1. The minimum recommended time for a teacher undertaking a Teaching with a Feather Journey is **7 hours** face-to-face contact time with our leading mentor, Robyn Cotter.
2. Cost - **$450 for 7 hours.** This is bespoke support designed to fit in with you and your commitments. A teacher may choose to spend more than 7 hours participating in the mentor program. (Price on application). Up to 4 teachers from a school can nominate to participate in the program during a school term. School leadership work in consultation with Robyn to determine teacher selection and hours provided.
3. The time frame for implementation for any teacher participating in the program will vary over the school term. Timetabling is discussed and negotiated between Robyn and the teacher.
4. Note: Travel and accommodation expenses are invoiced separately if required.

How else can I be involved in the Teaching with a Feather Program

1. **Brand New Day, Brand New Way Program:** Spend a day with Robyn in your classroom - $299 per teacher for a full day. Click here for further details.

2. Classroom Designs with a Purpose: Creating a different classroom environment can change the way you feel and interact with your students. Reinvigorate yourself with a new classroom set up. It can make a huge difference. Classroom Designs with a Purpose

3. Join the mailing list and receive the Teaching with a Feather Newsletter

The Teaching with a Feather Newsletter will be published 4 times per calendar year, one per school term. Contact Robyn at robyn@teachingfeather.com to join the mailing list.

Register for Lifetime Membership and gain exclusive access to the Members Only content on the website. For a one time payment of $10 you have available over 50 teaching and management strategies successfully used in Foundation/Prep to Year 6 classrooms. New content is added each term. Note: Payment is via Paypal. To register as a Lifetime member click here and follow the instructions provided.

Welcome to the wonderful world of '*Teaching with a Feather*'.