Dear Rite Journey Parents/Caregivers,

As a part of The Rite Journey this year, we are looking at the importance of mentoring in young people's lives.

The familiar saying 'It takes a village to raise a child' is an indication of the importance for children and adolescents to be surrounded by well-meaning adults; they are best served by a community of guidance. When one adult relationship in a teenagers' life is under stress, it is vital that other adult relationships take the strain, rather than allowing the peer relationships to take on the guiding roles – something young people are not well equipped to do.

There is also a healthy body of research which suggests that the more adults that adolescents are healthily connected to, the less risk factors they will expose themselves to and hence they are safer.

With this in mind we are encouraging all families to select a mentor for their child. This person should be a same gender adult who is willing to be in regular contact with the student (about a couple of hours per month for a total of at least 16 hours), undertaking a specific task of their choice (eg. Cooking, gardening, carpentry, etc.).

The role of the mentor is to:

• develop a trusting relationship
• support parental values
• help in developing social skills
• share in celebrating milestones
• listen to dreams, ideas and concerns
• promote the discovery of undeveloped potential.

A mentor should be someone who:

• already has a positive involvement with the child and/or family
• is willing to be contacted by parents and/or teachers if required
• is willing to help your child complete a TRJ Mentor project.

If you consider that a mentor for your son/daughter is appropriate, could you please complete the form at the end of this letter and return it to the school by 26th of April.

Kind regards,
Adam Di Rosso & Amitha Narlapati

Student Name: _____ Parent/Caregiver: _____

Mentor Name: _____ Contact number for mentor: _____

We, the parent(s)/caregiver(s) of _____ have selected the person named above

to act as mentor for our son/daughter.

Parent(s)'/caregiver(s)' signature(s): _____