

# Trustworthiness

**Parent(s),**

Character is revealed by how we behave when we are sure we won't be found out.

- Thomas Babington Macaulay

**Yes, it is March! This next month, Encinal will be focusing the Character Counts program on Trustworthiness.**

**Trustworthiness is being honest, telling the truth, keeping promises and being loyal so people can trust you. Trustworthy people don't lie, cheat or steal. They have integrity and the moral courage to do the right thing and stand up for their beliefs even when it is hard to do.**

**Here are some things you can do to reinforce the message of the classroom and our related learning activities:**

- **Discuss the importance of integrity, of being able to look at yourself in the mirror, and being proud of who you are and what you stand for.**
- **Keep your promises to your child. Write them down if you have trouble remembering them. If unforeseen circumstances prevent you from keeping a promise, explain and apologize openly. Don't blame others or make excuses.**
- **Return the extra change when a cashier gives you more than your due. (Children are watching!)**
- **Be cautious about making only those promises that you have the ability and intent to keep.**
- **Establish family rules and policies, which include honesty, promise-keeping, loyalty and integrity in conversations.**