

a + b = 3 Ltd



A and B make 3 newsletter no 5 – December 2008

TIPS AND NEWS ON MONEY

✉ Forward to friends

■ MONEY TIPS



Christmas is getting near and this year, you don't want to spend as much as last year on presents. How to deal with any potential disappointment from your children? (1) For your older children, discuss about their Christmas **list**: how do they **prioritize** their wishes? **Why** do they want them? Let them understand they

won't get everything and **explain** why. Isn't it the right moment to speak about your family's **values**? What is Christmas about and what makes the holiday so special? If they want to buy presents, let them be money savvy: write a list and decide on a budget. (2) For the little ones, discuss how Santa Claus too has **limited** money and have to **share** with all the children. You could even plan **donations** as part of your present budget. (3) **Discuss** with your spouse to be on line with how much you want to spend on the holiday (presents, food, transportation, clothes...). Take the time to write your **2009 budget** and see if your short and longer term goals fit in. And enjoy the spirit of Christmas! *Email to us what subjects you would like tips on.*

FOR YOUR BUSINESS



The environment keeps changing and you have no clue what may happen in 2009 to your business. So why plan when so many things are uncertain?

A plan is a tool. It is not meant to tell you the future but it gives you indication on what you may expect, how to react and how it may impact your business. Write what you think may happen to your business in 2009: how may these events translate in sales, expenses and cash? If you are expecting a big contract for example, and it does happen: planning for it will help you identify the additional resources and the cash impact. If it does not, you can quickly update your plan and take decisions to improve your profit. Plan your sales first taking a low and a high assumption; some expenses are fixed so easy to plan, others depend on your sales. Make sure you are consistent: don't cut expenses which generate sales... and keep the same sales target. Keep your plan flexible and update even more often; a weather forecast is never 100% accurate... but helps you take shelter if the weather turns really bad!

■ KIDS' CORNER



Hi Kittens! Have you sent your letter to Santa? I wrote my list and Santa asked me: "Why do you want all that? I have to share the presents with other kittens too!"

Try to guess my answers by matching them !

- a) Music player Mobile phone
 - b) Hat and gloves
 - c) Milk shake machine
 - d) A flashy motorbike
1. Need
 2. Wishes: to show off!
 3. Wishes: all my friends have it!
 4. Wishes: I love it!

■ a + b = 3 Ltd News

Our children and adults courses are now distributed by **Leverage** in Hong Kong.

Tim presented a+b=3 at the **Citi-FT Financial Summit** in Beijing in November.

Myriam organized a Training the Trainer to help NGOs teach financial education in **Kunming** in November.

Our **website** has been revamped and we are regularly posting additional resources! Visit us: www.aandbmake3.com! You can't find the answer to your question, ask us at info@aandbmake3.com

■ COURSES TO COME

In Hong Kong:

- For children and adults, please check Leverage training calendar: <http://www.leverage.hk>
- For Migrant workers, please check Enrich calendar: <http://www.enrichhk.org/program>

In Asia:

- Finance for non Finance Managers in Kuala Lumpur (23 & 24 February 2009) and Singapore (26 & 27 February 2009)