CELEBRITY

Graph of greatness

The good and bad of what we’re talking about this week

THE STYLE SISTERS

Gemma and Charlotte are our new decluttering gurus, thanks to their fab new book.

SHAWN AND CAMILA

Cute couple Shawn Mendes and Camila Cabello are behind a relaxation series called Breathe Into It, exclusively on meditation app Calm.

INSATIABLE

Instagram is launching the 21 Under 21 campaign to honour influencers who shine in online business.

THE COOKIE PEOPLE

Hands down, the best cookie dough you’ll ever taste. Check out their insta @thecookiepeopleco and get your orders in. Dangerously good!

OUR CULTURAL FUTURE

Over half of galleries and museums are worried for their survival.* Grab a National Art Pass to help them out.

CORSETS

Since that Billie Eilish Vogue cover, we love corsets, but they’re less than ideal when eating out.

LEARNING CURVE

Harry Connick Jr

SINGER, ACTOR AND TALENT SHOW JUDGE, 53

Where I grew up, you respected your elders.

In New Orleans, you stood up when an elder came into the room, and you didn’t speak unless you were spoken to. Saying “sir” and “ma’am” is important in the South.

If an elder says: “Did you have a nice day?” or: “Did you do your homework?” you say: “Yes, ma’am,” or: “Yes, sir.” People in the South are more open to strangers, and more conversational, and we do things a little bit slower.

It’s probably because of the weather – when it’s cold out, you don’t want to stop and have a conversation on the street as readily as you do in the South!

My dad gave me the best advice. He [Harry Sr, 95] said: “Be on time and be nice to people.” People have lives, families and things to do, so being on time is absolutely paramount. Being kind is, too – I treat everyone the same and give everybody the same respect, no matter who they are or what their status is perceived to be. That’s the basic stuff I keep going back to.

There’s no secret to a happy marriage. My wife Jill [Goodacre, 57] and I have been together for over 30 years.

I love her. She’s my best friend, we have a great time and we share the same values. It’s about respect and honouring her, and making her feel like she is the most important person in my life – which she is. Those are things I’ve known since the day we met. I ask myself: “What can I do to make this woman proud of me and make her happy?”

Love, respect, trust and communication are the basic tenets of a relationship, and that’s what works for us. I think if you take it a day at a time, things have a pretty good chance of working out.

Having children is humbling. You leave for the hospital as two people, then you come back as three, and it’s like: “Whoa! Who is this person? What do I do?” That’s an exciting, wonderful feeling that all parents know about. You come to the realisation that it’s not about you, it’s about them. Our daughters [Georgia, 25, Sarah Kate, 23, and Charlotte, 18] have every right to have the best life we can provide for them. It takes the focus off you and all the other things you thought were so important. Those things don’t seem to matter in the same way, because they’re now in the context of somebody else’s world. For me, this was a huge epiphany – and the best possible thing.

I don’t have any regrets. I never didn’t take a risk, or didn’t do something because I was afraid – I’ve always really gone for it. I’ve made lots of mistakes – a ton of them – but I think they’re part of what have made me the person I am. I’m grateful for the mistakes I’ve made, because I think I’ve learned from them.

● Harry’s new album Alone With My Faith is out now on Verve.

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