## Kau Yan School (Kindergarten) School Year 2016-2017 Principal's Message (3)

11 Jul 2017

Dear parents,

Today is the last school day of school year 2016-2017. Children can enjoy learning this year and expressing abilities learned in many different ways. This has to be the result of our staff's hard work, designing a curriculum that is suitable for the development of children's age group, motivate them to learn and explore. At the same time, school and family are places for children to learn, grow and know about the world, both are equally important. Children have great improvement in all aspects because of our good companion – parents' support and cooperation. In this message, let me share with you the moments of our children in this school year.

Parents take part in different Home-School collaboration, such as paired reading, book borrowing and returning, making teaching material, profession sharing and assisting outing etc. to enrich and strengthen children's learning.











During different activities, such as drawing, discussing, writing, reading, statistics, music etc., children show the skills they have learned and the knowledge they have built



Teachers patiently guide children to express what they see and what they think in different activities. This efficiently develops children's language expression and confident.



We believe all children are active learner, they love to ask questions and explore the world with five senses. Therefore, we dedicate ourselves to provide different environment stimulants to allow children to explore freely, motivate them to learn and use different methods to find the solutions. There is a big different between obtaining first hand information through exploration and getting answers directly from teachers. It is like being told how tasty something is or how magnificent a tourist site is; we would stay at the stage of "knowing". We can only delicately describe and think of the unforgettable experience if we actually take a bite of the food and taste it in our mouth, experience the stimulation of taste; or arrange a holiday for ourselves, go on field trips at different tourist sites, experience the exotic custom and tradition. When we come across new dishes or

tourist sites again, we can make use of the "dinning culture" or "travelling" concept learned in the past to help ourselves understand new things. This is the objective of us allowing children to explore with five senses. Children repeatedly explore things that they cannot understand with this model to acquire learning skills. That is how children can become a person who loves learning under Constructivism Learning Method.



Also, during the exploration process, children need companions to discuss and explore together. Under this premise, we must teach children how to express themselves, understand someone else emotion expressions and establish friendship with companions etc. Therefore, emotional learning programmes "Kimochis" for K1, K2 and "Zippy's Friends" for K3 can efficiently develop their knowledge towards themselves and the others, build up self-esteem and confident in learning under a mutual acceptance environment.



The outstanding part of constructivism learning is that it can effectively train children thinking development, from basic thinking (e.g. distinguishing and sorting, observing, comparing and contrasting, recalling, reasoning, comprehending, analogising, listing and sequencing, inferencing, matching, analysing, defining, and synthesising, etc.) to complex-level thinking (e.g. critical thinking, creative thinking, and problem-solving). Children will then understand the nature and method of

learning. Based on this, it is even more important to develop children's language. The basic units of "thinking" are images, concepts, and language. The objective of "first person exploration" mentioned above is to construct images in their brains, however, the concepts developed from these images must rely on language to be expressed. Therefore, we value children's language development. It is a core element of our thinking curriculum instead of a separate learning category. Thus, a progressive and comprehensive language curriculum that matches children's development is our primary focus throughout the learning process. Next year, we will rearrange the time table, further modify our language programmes. It will allow children to explore in multi-perspectives and use languages to express, communicate, record and understand during 3 hours of school time. Thus, facilitate development of higher-ordered thinking.



Approaching the end of this school year, we received mails from primary schools in the district or directly from the graduates to notify us that our children have finished Primary 1 with flying colors. Helping children adapt different learning models in primary schools, gain confident and develop passion towards learning are the objectives of us working hard every day. Our companionship with parents will not cease after their children graduate. We will continue to be the backup for parents and graduates, support children's learning and development to help them smoothly bridge to their primary school life.





Wish our graduates can unfold the unique potential gifted by God in their primary school life, embrace every day with God's love and joy. May peace and happiness be with you, enjoy the joyfulness and sweetness of summer!

Yours faithfully,

KWAN Shan, Principal