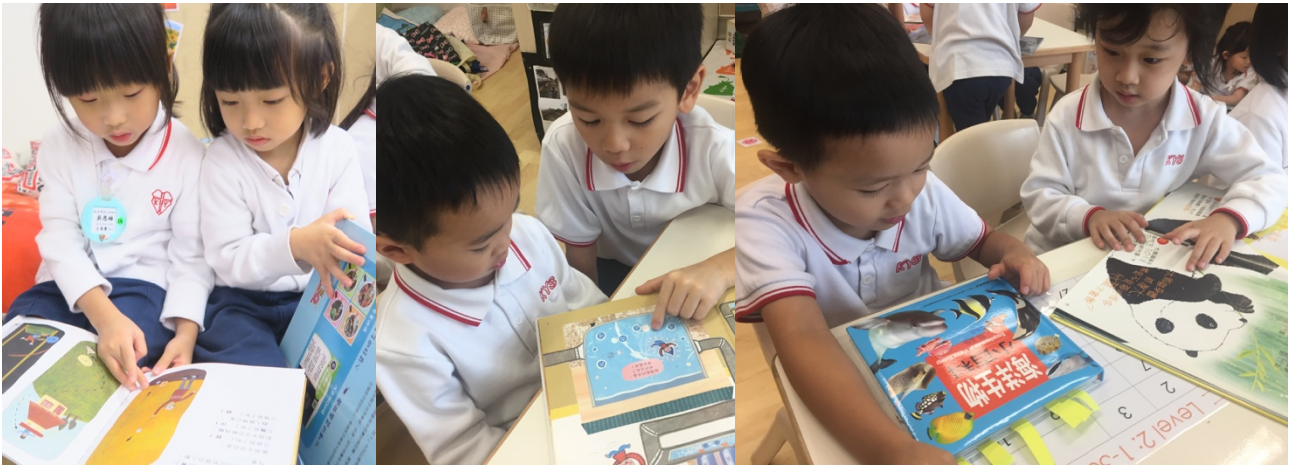


**Kau Yan School (Kindergarten)**  
**School Year 2018-2019**  
**Principal's Message (1)**

16 Nov 2018

Dear parents,

The new project “Resources of the Earth” started last week. Matching the annual theme-Reading, all classes had their first read together activity. Children use different reading formats, including group reading, mix-aged reading and individual reading, to read books related to the project. Hopefully, these activities can help children enjoy the project, experience looking for information from books, understand books are essential tools to gain knowledge.



Besides Reading Day, the school environment has also changed to a new look after the term break. One of them is the Free Play Area inside Science Discovery Corner on 1/F. Our teachers developed it with the idea inspired by the Taichung visit in May. The concept of Free Play came from a German educator Friedrich Fröbel. By creating a suitable gaming space and environment for children, we train their creativity and logical thinking abilities. Definition for “Free Play” is “an activity that is relaxing, not serious and guided by children”. It allows children to explore the environment and things around them and discover their potential. This type of activity got many names. It is called “Free Play” in western countries, “自由遊戲” in Hong Kong, “安吉遊戲” in China and “鬆散遊戲” in Taiwan. No matter what it is called, it aims for the same concept, and it is an important activity for children’s early learning.

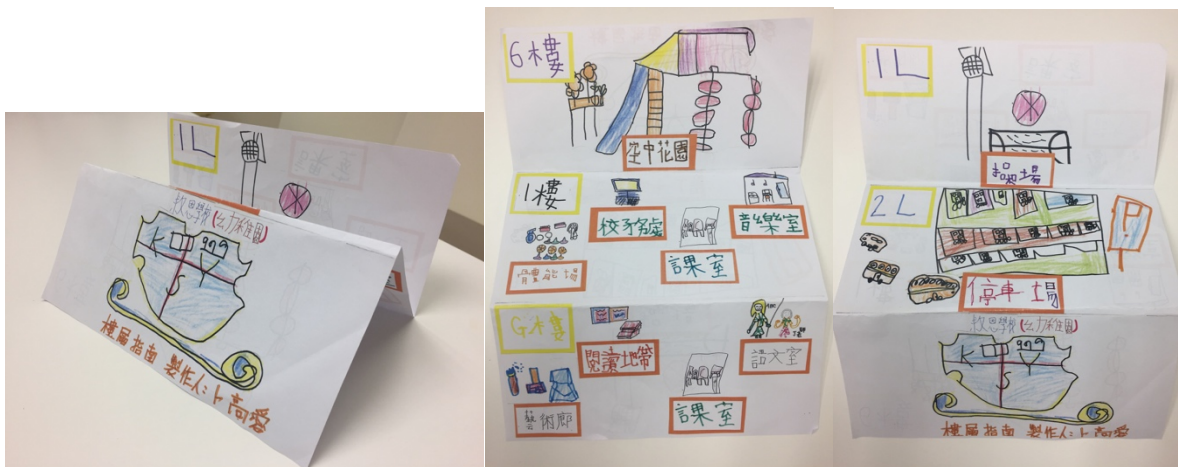


Therefore, “Free Play” is different from the games usually provided to children with specific answers. Inside “Free Play Area”, every item is well arranged, including stones, cups, branches, bricks, shells, pine cones, ropes, hooks, bottle caps, beads, etc. These daily free exploring materials can train children's abilities in many aspects, including problem-solving skills, engineering concepts, creativity, concentration, hand-eye coordination, big and small muscle development, language vocabulary, mathematic and scientific thinking, social-emotional development, etc. These materials look unrelated, but they can be changed into meaningful games with children's imagination and creativity. Besides school, we encourage parents to arrange a unique space for children at home, allowing them to design what materials to put there and develop games of their own.



The beginning of the new project also marks the end of the last project. In the project “School and Me”, we are happy to see children from different groups devoted to learning the differences between themselves and others, exploring every corner of the school, understanding the relationship between themselves and other people in the school, and learning how to respond to others' caring, etc. Children's knowledge of the above content will be shown during sharing with other children and teaching staff at the end of the project. Some groups posted notices at different venues to let others know the function of each location; some children made a directory of Kau Yan School (Kindergarten Section) and Kau Yan newspaper to introduce the school; some told people the importance of protecting ourselves, creating an eye protection song and eye-protecting exercises; some made

different items, such as cards and collaborative painting, to express their thankfulness. Children from K3 Faith Group B secretly left a “gift” on my table. I was so surprised when I saw the gift – the computer they made. I am looking forward to future projects to share their experience during exploration.



I believe children have brought many surprises to parents during their learning process. We welcome parents to share with us to help us know more about each child, build up a close cooperative relationship, work together to create a harmonious learning

atmosphere.

Yours faithfully,



KWAN Shan, Principal