

## Kau Yan School (Kindergarten Section)

The year 2019-2020

Principal's Message (3)

20 December 2019

Dear parents,

Time flies! This week is already the last school week for 2019. In the past three months, we held various exploration activities. Both morning and afternoon sessions finished their parent-child outdoor play days. At the same time, children developed the attitude and method of self-directed learning through the projects *School and Me* and *Resource of the Earth*. Let me share how children can become friends with nature in the last project - *Resources of the Earth*. They took the initiative to care for the environment and participated in protecting the environment.

Before starting the project, we need to consider the concept of sustainability. To develop children into environmentally friendly people, we cannot simply implant the ideas of 4R and garbage classification. Pure cognition cannot bring real change. We believe deep feelings and responsibility toward the environment are the keys to successful sustainable education. We need to be willing to sacrifice our convenience to improve environmental issues. Therefore, our school set up the Eco Island and the Garden for children to cultivate feelings toward flora and fauna. Also, we will conduct the project – Resource of the Earth around Nov and Dec every year. The project consists of various outdoor activities, visits, data collection, experiments, and discussions. It allows children to appreciate the beautiful environment and understand Earth's resources are limited. That way, children will naturally develop ideas and determination to protect the environment and start to love the world that God created.



Although all classes have the same project title and learning target, each class has its unique point of interest and exploration contents. Getting to know the topic

resource of the earth would be a new learning experience for K1 children. Therefore, teachers would focus on letting children observe, explore, and learn about the item in nature, such as animals, insects, plants, leaves, fruits, etc. They tried to apply sorting, sequencing, and matching skills to learn about nature with first-hand experience. Also, understand the relationship between the natural environment and themselves.



As for K2 and K3, they have basic knowledge of nature. Therefore, teachers would focus more on the definition of the term - resource. Each class will delve into resources' properties, functions, and limitations according to children's abilities and interests. K2 children found that water is indispensable for humans, flora, and fauna. They made some filtering tools and filtered dirty water to clean water. Children learned that filtering is not an easy job. The filtered water may not be suitable for drinking. Therefore, they will cherish and use less water.



K3 children implemented their creativity. They shared the knowledge and thoughts collected with the others using different media. For example:

- 1) Children created collaborative books to promote eco-friendly.



- 2) Children made toys and book exchange boxes. They hope to reduce waste by sharing resources.



- 3) When children forget to bring shoe bags or reading bags, they will use plastic bags instead. K3 children observed this phenomenon. Therefore, they collected some eco-bags to put in an eco-box for other children to use when needed. They sent a representative to look for me at my office and bravely presented their idea. They even shook hands with me after getting my approval to put the eco-box on 1/F!



- 4) Children made a collaborative video. They hope more people can hear their call by creating scripts, actions, and music. (Please visit [https://youtu.be/kEN\\_xnwOLao](https://youtu.be/kEN_xnwOLao) for the video)



The above methods to protect the environment are the result of children's self-directed learning. I believe the idea of eco-friendly has been imprinted in them. Please extend your children's learning by practicing with them. This way, we can implement sustainable education in daily life.



Lastly, I would like to share the activity highlights from Spreading the Love. K3 children spent a week promoting the food donation activity. They sent the food to the food bank and directly handed it to the staff on 16 December. The staff there told them that the food donated could help many people in need. K3 children visited the elderly home on 13 and 17 December. They prepared some songs, rhythm and movement, and bible verses related to the birth of Jesus to share. K1 children took their part to cheer up the K2 and K3 children. We have to thank our parents for supporting the activity. Children can care about their community with actions and spread the love from Jesus.





Merry Christmas! May God's grace be with you always. See you next year!

Yours faithfully,



KWAN Shan, Principal