A Glimpse into Early Years

December 14, 2015

“Everybody is a genius, but if you judge a fish by its ability to climb a tree it will live its whole life believing that it is stupid.”

Greeting Parents,

It has been a wonderful first term in the Early Years Division and the time has flown by. The Early Years winter carnival was a terrific culminating event for this term. We are very grateful to the Parent Coordinator Team who put long hours to plan and organize this event. Also thank you to the parent volunteers who contributed hours of work to ensure a successful day for everyone. A tremendous success and to top it all off there was a visit from our dear Santa Claus who stayed with us throughout the day! This event truly reflected the wonderful things that we can all experience when we, parents, teachers and community come together to create great experiences for children. It was a terrific festive time and fun was had by all. THANK YOU!

As we get ready for the holiday, plan to spend quality time with your children. Quality time is giving direct and undivided attention to your child. Quality time with children includes quality communication, too. Taking time to talk with your children is important in building an open and honest relationship, and it also creates an atmosphere where children can feel free to take up various issues. Talk to your children, but also remember to listen to what your children have to say. Foster your children’s curiosity and interests by asking a lot of ‘Why?’ and ‘How?’ questions. This helps children in learning how to express their thoughts and feelings. Let your children talk about themselves, about what they like to do and about their worries. This will help in creating the atmosphere of trust and acceptance.

8 tips how to improve the quality of communication between your children and you:

1. Gather round the table and enjoy family meals - family members can exchange information; this is time when parents can listen, offer advice and support to their children;
2. Read to your children - research shows that it develops interest in knowledge acquisition and stimulates language development in children. It also enhances attention, concentration and curiosity in children;
3. Do household chores together - sharing household chores is a very productive way of teaching children responsibility. Doing them together with your children helps them understand the value of team work and good communication;
4. take up a family hobby - activities like cooking, making things or cycling are an excellent way of spending quality time with your children;
5. Play - parents should choose social games with their children over long hours of watching TV programs and playing on computers and smart phones.
6. Plan occasional family outings - prepare a picnic, visit the local park, go cycling, walk in the forest, visit the zoo or the museum;
7. Initiate family physical activities - both strengthening the body and helping in building up their personality and increasing motivation and perseverance, they are very important for the development of children;
8. Make a calendar of ‘family time’ - since many parents have a busy schedule, time scheduled for their children is getting lower on their priorities list. Make a calendar of planned family events together with your children. It may bring about some creative ideas. Try to stick to the plan.


A reminder that all children will be dismissed at 12:00 on Friday, December 18. KG1 & KG2 car riders will be dismissed from the main gate.

If you know of anyone applying to ACS Early Years for 2016-2017 or if you have a child that will be starting next year, Admissions is receiving applications and we will interview on January 29th, 2016.

To all of our families who celebrate Christmas I wish you a Merry Christmas and to those who don’t a Happy Holiday!

I look forward to continuing the journey of learning with you and your children in the new year.

Respectfully,
Sawsan Yaseen
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**Upcoming Events & Dates to Remember**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dec. 18</td>
<td>Last Day of School—Dismissal at 12:00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dec. 21-Jan. 6</td>
<td>Winter Break</td>
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<td>Jan. 7</td>
<td>Classes resume</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan. 15</td>
<td>Information Session for New Parents</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan. 21</td>
<td>PD ½ day, 1:00 Dismissal</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan. 25</td>
<td>Teachers’ Reflections on Children’s Learning Out</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan. 29</td>
<td>New Student Interviews—No Classes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>