

PARENT NEWSLETTER

LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPAL

NOVEMBER 2008

Dear Families,

Can you believe that we are nearing the end of our first term this school year?! It has been a great first half so far and here at 3e we would like to thank you for your support as we continue to learn and grow together.

One thing that we have spent many hours, days, weeks and months on is our school library. As mentioned previously, several staff spent a great deal of time working to put a system in place that would make our library more efficient and functional. Additionally, 3e is working with a consultant to install an electronic system to ensure quality. With a system in place, the library is now staffed from Monday-Friday between the hours of 8:30AM-12:00PM and 1:00PM-4:30PM. Parents are welcome to borrow books during these times; however, our primary focus is the children and teachers. Teachers are allotted a specific time in which they have access to the library for their classrooms. Each class may use their time differently as they will consider what is age appropriate for their children.

We are happy to be moving forward with the development of our library. Any new developments will be communicated to you as they progress.

Have a wonderful November!

Nadia Perez

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- *Parent-Teacher Conferences: Friday, November 21 by appointment; NO SCHOOL THIS DAY!*
- *Parent Council meeting: November 27 & December 11*
- *December Morning Coffee: Friday, December 5 @ 9AM*
- *Family Winter Holiday Party: Friday, December 19 @ 3PM-5PM*
- *Winter Holiday: Dec 19-Jan 4*

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3e PARENT COUNCIL

What is Parent Council?

3e Parent Council is a group of parents from the school community who aim to foster good relations between the school and parents for the benefit of our children. The council represents the parents of all 3e students. Our goal is to improve the school community for all families at the school. Our main areas of interest this term are the library, school lunches and community outreach projects.

We welcome all parents to attend our meetings, to share great ideas, air concerns or simply enjoy a cup of tea with other parents. Parent Council meet fortnightly on Thursday mornings from 9-10:30am. For more information or to add an agenda item, email Molly Lloyd (mollyblloyd@yahoo.com).

Upcoming meeting dates are:
2008 – 27 November, 11 December
2009 – 8 & 22 January, 5 & 19 February

We would like to thank Sachin Kukreja for his commitment to the catering committee during his time at 3e and wish his family all the best with their move back to the United States. Sachin has invested many hours towards ensuring school lunches are healthy, balanced and nutritious. Annette Nawrath will continue Sachin's good work – please email Annette (annette.nawrath@gmx.de) if you would like to help with the school menu.



TELEVISION AND MY CHILD

Some frequently asked questions by parents relate to television - How much, when and what their children are watching. Though 3e does not have its own guidelines regarding this; organizations such as the American Academy of Pediatrics and the Media Awareness Network (Canada) provide advice, guidelines and useful information regarding the topic of children and television exposure.

Information can be found at:

www.media-awareness.ca;
www.aacap.org; www.aap.org;

Articles and publications are also posted on the parent information board located in the nursery department.

Managing Television in the Home

If you're concerned about television, banning it isn't a practical solution. Instead, you need to learn to co-exist with television by managing how much your kids watch, and what.

Take control of your family's viewing habits by using some of these strategies:

- Start young. It's wise to work on developing good TV viewing habits well before your children start school. As they grow older, it will become more difficult for you to enforce restrictions or influence their tastes.
- Limit the amount of time your kids spend watching television, especially on school nights. Make sure they're involved in other activities such as sports, hobbies and playing outside.
- Monitor what your children watch, and whenever possible watch with them and discuss the program.
- Young children are at higher risk of becoming aggressive after watching violence on TV—especially cartoons. You should limit the amount of violence they're exposed to and

monitor their behavior after watching violent shows.

- Kids model their behavior on that of their parents—so take a hard look at your own viewing habits, and if necessary, change them.
- Encourage your children to watch a variety of programs: sports, nature and science shows, the arts, music and history shows.
- Consider the best place for your television set. When your children are small, use the old adage "out of sight, out of mind"—and keep the TV in a room away from where your family spends most of its time. Never put a television set in a child's bedroom!
- Make sure your caregiver or sitter knows about, and follows, your TV rules.

Excerpted from *Managing Television In The Home* www.media-awareness.ca (Media Awareness Network, Canada)

INTRODUCE MUSIC TO YOUR CHILD

If your child is like most preschoolers, he or she already loves music and has favorite songs. This may have happened with little encouragement from you beyond simply playing music on long car trips. But did you know that your preschooler is now at an ideal age to expand his or her musical horizons and abilities?

The Benefits of Music

Children who grow up hearing music, listening songs, and moving to the beat are enjoying what experts call "a rich sensory environment." That's just a fancy way of saying a child is exposed to a wide variety of tastes, smells, texture, colors, and sounds. And kids who enjoy such a rich environment do more than have fun. Researchers believe they forge more pathways between the cells in their brains.

Musical experiences are an important way to help create these pathways, also called neural connections. And while listening to music is certainly key to creating them, it's when your child actively participates in music that he or she makes the strongest connections. Research has shown that children who are actively involved in music (who play it or sing it regularly).

- do better in reading and math when they start school
- are better able to focus and control their bodies
- play better with others and have higher self-esteem

Let's Dance

The simplest thing you can do is to put on music and dance with your child. Vary the rhythms and tempo of your body with the music. Practice "copy dancing" where you invite your child to imitate your movements and then let him or her lead as you follow. Combining music and movement helps preschoolers learn to control their bodies. They learn to move fast to fast music, and more slowly to slow tunes. Learning physical control is an important developmental step and can help build concentration skills and self-control later on. So put on music now and dance with your child!

Reviewed by: [D'Arcy Lyness, PhD](mailto:D'Arcy.Lyness@kidshealth.org) www.kidshealth.org

NOVEMBER 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 Joshua Falk	3	4 Eli Erik	5 Nicholas Wang	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13 Vicky Yip	14	15 Eira Korhonen
16	17 Julian Lau Justinian Lau	18	19	20	21	22
23	24 Max Christersson	25 Neng Hui Tsang	26	27	28	29 Centauri Sun
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DECEMBER 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12 Louis Dartus	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21 Ann Lloyd Reardon	22	23	24	25 Liu Ying Ze
26 Rohan Reddy Jane Xie	27	28 Irene Sun	29	30 Isaac Teo	31	



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WE'RE ON THE WEB!

WWW.3EIK.COM

3e Mission statement

Our mission is to develop critical thinkers and passionate learners who can move confidently and fluidly across cultures.

3e Philosophy

We work from the premise that diverse educational settings offer distinct and valuable advantages for the child's learning experiences. We combine the west-ern styled, child centered, progressive approach to learning with the teacher di-rected, systematic instructional practices of the East. Each approach is inti-mately connected to its respective language, and culture.

Our Principles

We at 3e International strive to fulfill our mission by abiding by our philosophy, employing our approach effectively and living up to our principles. Our staff is committed to decisions and actions that follow these principles:

- All children have the capacity to learn and succeed.
- Children need to have a positive image of themselves as learners, individuals, and community members.
- Diversity of culture and language is a valuable learning resource.
- Community members contribute to the child's positive learning experiences.
- The school environment acts as another teacher as children learn about them-selves and their world.

UPDATES AND REMINDERS

ASA for Term 2: ASA (After School Activities) for Term 2 will begin on February 2, 2009, after the Spring Festival. Reg-istration forms will be sent home in December and are due back to the school by January 9. Spaces are LIMITED and classes will be closed for registration once full.

Playground Equipment: Our playground has been carefully cleaned and proper playground equipment has been in-stalled. All the children have access to it with the supervision of teachers during school time. The playground is closed at 3:30 PM every day.

Playground rules: Keeping safety in mind, our new playground requires sports shoes. Please keep a pair of sports shoes for your child at school so he/she can take full advantage of their outdoor experience.

Parent/Teacher Conferences: Scheduled for November 21, parents will come at a scheduled time and have a discus-sion with teacher regarding your child's development as seen in the classroom. Each child has approximately 20 min-utes' conference time with their teachers. NO SCHOOL THIS DAY!!!

Parent Council: Meeting every other Thursday morning at 9AM, Parent Council is welcoming any parents who are inter-ested in participating. For more information please attend Nov. 27 and / or Dec. 11 or contact Molly at mollyblloyd@yahoo.com.

ASA-Music & Movement: Due to the parent/teacher conference on November 21, the Music & Movement, Crafts and Studio Arts session for this Friday, Nov. 21 is cancelled.