

Parent Points

An information newsletter promoting full family learning at The Family Learning House.

October 27, 2006

“In seed time, learn,
in harvest teach,
in winter enjoy.”

—William Blake

CALANDER POINTS

Primary Classroom Open
For Parent Observation
Starting November 6, 2006

November 15, 2006
7PM - 8:30 PM

Parent Learning Workshop
Topic TBA

Please email Kate with suggestions of topics you would like to know more about. The PLW will then be tailored to your requests. Look for an update in the November 10th edition of Parent Points.

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MAKEPOVERTYHISTORY



Children in the Primary classroom painted a banner background for **MAKEPOVERTYHISTORY** after reading “For Every Child” a storybook by Caroline Castle about the rights of children. Some of the difficult questions raised by children included “Why are there children without food and medicine?” and “Why do some families not have any money to buy clothes and shoes?” We are using this activity as a starting point to brainstorm ways that we can be of service to other families and children who are in need of support against poverty.

大班的孩子们，在阅读了卡罗琳·卡斯尔写的《为了所有的孩子》这本有关儿童权利的故事书之后，画了“让贫穷成为历史”的横幅。孩子们提出了一些很复杂的问题，比如：“为什么竟然有孩子没有食品和药品？”“为什么有些家庭没有钱来买衣服和鞋子？”我们用这种活动作为起点，来启发孩子们去思考通过怎样的方式，我们可以为那些需要帮助和支持与贫穷做斗争的家庭和孩子们提供服务。





GENTLENESS VISITOR

Special thanks to Auntie Carmen who brought Anika into the primary classroom on October 19th to discuss Gentleness. Her presentation concluded a two week study about the place gentleness has in our classroom and in our daily lives. We encourage parents to look for ways their children practice gentleness at home and give a quick acknowledgement recognizing this virtue.

温柔美德课程的嘉宾

特别感谢 Carmen 阿姨在 10 月 19 日把 Anika 带到大班课堂来一起探讨温柔这一美德。她的到来，使我们把两周以来对于如何把温柔这一美德很好的运用到我们的课堂和生活学习做了一个总结。我们鼓励家长们在家里抓住时机帮助孩子们练习温柔的美德并及时给与认可。

本周美德

我们的美德课程每两周集中学习一种不同的美德。

请抽出几分钟时间来阅读下一段，以帮助我们在生活中体现出本周所涉及的美德。请记住，教导孩子最好的方式就是我们自己的行为为楷模来引导孩子，以使其变成我们所期望的。

责任感

有责任感就是使别人能依靠你；就是认真做事，并尽你所能；就是愿意为你做或不做事情负责。这意味着当做对了事情时，你接受表扬；做错事的时候，你就接受改正。当你负责时，你会兑现你自己的承诺。一个负责任的人就是要有很好的回应能力。

在下列情景中我在练习我的责任感：
 认真对待我的承诺尽我一切所能达到要求
 专注于自己的工作，而不是其他人的
 愿意接受赞扬和改正
 承认错误
 愿意并随时准备澄清误会
 我有责任感。我尽我一切努力把事情办好并坚持遵守我的诺言。我欢迎对我行为的赞扬和改正。

VIRTUE OF THE WEEK

Every two weeks our character education program brings a different virtue into focus.

Please take a minute to review the following information to help demonstrate the place our virtue of the week has in your life. Remember, the best way we can guide our children is to model the behaviour we expect to see in them.

RESPONSIBILITY

Being responsible means that others can depend on you. It is doing something well and to the best of your ability. Being responsible is being willing to be accountable for what you do or do not do. It means humbly accepting credit when things go right and correction when things go wrong. When you are responsible, you keep your agreements. Being responsible is the ability to respond ably.

I am practicing responsibility when I...

- Take my agreements seriously
- Respond ably by doing things to the best of my ability
- Focus on my own part, not someone else's
- Am willing to accept credit and correction
- Admit my mistakes
- Am ready and willing to clear up misunderstandings

I am responsible. I give my best to all that I do and keep my agreements. I welcome both praise and correction for my actions.

PRIMARY TRIP TO TONG DA ECOSYSTEM PARK

On Friday October 27, 2006 our school held its first field trip of the year. We visited the Tong Da Ecosystem Park where children observed a working greenhouse, planted some bean plants and enjoyed a greenhouse grown snack. A big thank you to all of our parent volunteers who helped by driving and chaperoning the trip.

The field trip capped off our month long study of plants. Our children have been learning about the parts of the plant, the life cycle of a plant and have used plants to create several pieces of artwork. In November our month long theme will be the solar system and we have many exciting activities planned for the children.

2006年10月27日，我校举行了本学年的第一次出游。我们参观了同达生态园的温室。孩子们种植了一些豆类植物，并享用了温室栽培的蔬果。非常感谢所有用车接送和陪伴孩子们的家长志愿者们。

这次的出游使我们本月的植物学习主题划上了圆满的句号。我们的孩子们学习了植物的不同部分，植物的生命周期并用植物制作了一些不同的艺术作品。在11月份我们的学习主题将会是太阳系，我们已经为孩子们安排了一些精彩活动。



PRIMARY CLASSROOM OBSERVATION

Beginning Monday November 6, 2006 parents are welcome to book an observation time to visit our primary classroom. Appointments are available from Monday—Thursday every week from 9—10AM and from 1—2PM.

Parents are welcome to observe any time between now and June. We humbly request that each parent book at least one day in advance and a maximum of one observation spot per week to ensure that all parents have an opportunity to participate.

PRIMARY CLASSROOM
OBSERVATIONS
Monday—Thursday
9AM - 10 AM and 1PM-2PM

(By appointment only, Call 8430 2547 x 82 to reserve)

大班课堂观察

欢迎家长们从2006年11月6日星期三起预约一个时间段参观观察大班课堂。可预约的观察时间是每周一到周四上午9:00AM - 10:00AM, 下午1:00PM - 2:00PM

欢迎家长们预约从现在到明年六月份间的课堂观察。我们恳请每位家长至少提前一天预约，每周最多预约一个时间段以保证所有的家长都有机会来参与。

大班课堂观察

周一到周四 上午
9 -10AM ,下午 1-2PM

只接待预约，请拨打84302547预约时间



By Kate Millie, MEd.

The adult mind produces images like a painter. The painting is never going to be exact; it is a rendering of reality. A child's mind is more like a camera; it takes an exact picture of its environment and then goes into the darkness waiting to be developed. Only when the film develops do we know what the picture will look like. This exact absorption ability that children have is what Montessori called the Absorbent Mind. Developing in the darkness is the Secret of Childhood.

It is only after 6 years old that we see what the child has absorbed. A child does not actually learn – a child, instead, has an intense, unconscious absorption and passion for the environment. A child's mind is like a sponge, the child will absorb what is there.

With this in mind we must ensure that we create environments where children can absorb the best possible information. Remember that the child is always absorbing:

- Images: Ensure that television is kept at a minimal and that books are reality based.
- Relationships (human, animal, inanimate, natural relationships): ensure that your relationships are true and real, have open and honest communication with your child and with your family members, ensure that you are all treating each other with respect.
- Deep seated feelings (spoken or unspoken): your child will know if there is conflict in the household and will also understand the deep love you feel for your family.
- Qualities (shapes, size, texture, odour): offer your child a wide range of food options giving them a chance to broaden their pallet while young, this will ensure that they will enjoy a wide range of foods when older
- Language (s): the best time for a child to learn another language is from 0-6 after 6 it is far more difficult. If you speak another language consider doing so in the home to allow your child an understanding of this language.
- Movement: Children will learn to walk and run by absorbing these movements and watching the people around them.
- Order and consistency: ensure that your household is clean and orderly, everything having a place, make sure that you show order to your child (how to set the table, make the bed, etc).

The absorbent mind is involuntary. The mind of a child is not formed or complete. It is in process, taking shape in the environment. Whatever is absorbed becomes the substance of the brain and shapes the brain. "Impressions do not really enter a child's mind, they form it." - Maria Montessori

成人的头脑就象画家画画那样产生视像。图案永远不会是与真实完全一致的。它只是真实现象的描绘。而一个孩子的头脑则更象是一架照相机，它将其周围的环境准确地拍成相片，并等待其在暗室中被冲洗出来。只有在底片被冲好时，我们才知道相片是什么样子。这种儿童拥有的准确的吸收能力就是蒙台梭利所说的有吸引力的心灵。在暗室里的显影过程就是童年的秘密。

只有孩子到了六岁以后，我们才明白他到底吸收了些什么。零至六岁的孩子对环境的反应与成人不同。孩子并不是在真正的学习；实际上是对环境有一种强烈的激情，并对其进行无意识的吸收。这种吸收就好像是有两个玻璃杯，一杯是清洁的水，另一杯是污浊的水。一块海绵会以同样的方式不加选择的从两个杯子中汲取水分。孩子的头脑就如同海绵，不论周围环境如何，他都会去吸收业已存在的东西。

清楚这一点后，我们就应该确保创造环境使孩子能尽可能地吸收最好的信息。记住，孩子总是在不断汲取的。

视像：确保将看电视的时间缩到最低限度，而所阅读的书籍的内容应以现实为基础。

各种关系：（人类，动物，无生命的，自然的关系）确保你们相互的关系是真真实实的，你与孩子和家庭成员之间应该有开放和真诚的交流，确保你们所有人之间都能相互尊重。

心灵深处的情感：（表述和非表述的）：你的孩子会知道家中是否有冲突，而且也会明白你对这个家的爱有多深。

饮食品质（形状，大小，构成，味道）：给你的孩子提供广泛的食品品种，趁他们还小的时候，给他们机会去品尝不同风味的饮食，以使他们在长大以后能享用品种繁多的食物。

语言：（人类语言）：一个孩子学习另外一种语言的最好时间是从零岁至六岁，六岁以后便会困难许多。如果你会说另外一种语言，可以考虑在家中也说，以便让你的孩子对这种语言有所了解。

能看能做的动作：他们会通过观察理解周围人的动作来学习走路和跑步。

秩序性和稳定性：确保你的居所整洁有秩序，物有所归，确保向孩子展示出秩序（如何摆桌子，铺床等）。

善于吸收的心灵是不自觉的。孩子的头脑还没有或没有完全形成。它尚在发展过程中，尚在环境中形成。不管他吸收的是什么，都会变成大脑中的内容，并参与塑造大脑。“各种印象并非真正进入到孩子的头脑中去，他们倒是在参与构成大脑。” - 马利亚 蒙台梭利