

*“You don’t stop playing because you grow old; you grow old because you stop playing.”*

*- George Bernard Shaw*

Dear Parents,

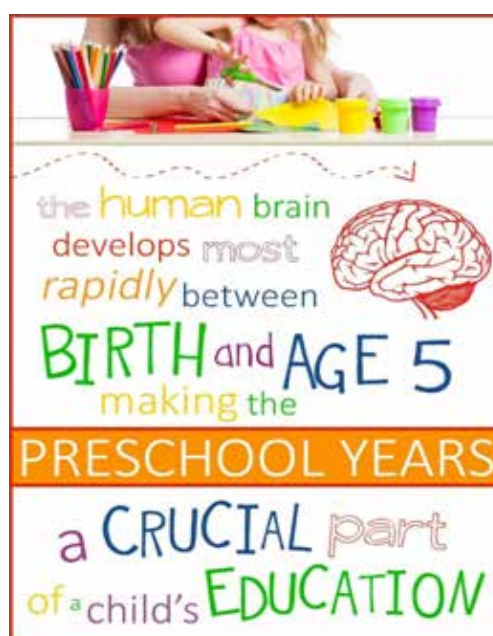
We would like to thank you for attending the Student Led Conference that was held on April 11th, 2015 at the Indus International Junior School. It is truly very encouraging to see the incredible progress all the children have made and the effort and commitment they have shown towards their learning. As you are aware the Student- led Conference is a culmination of their learning and the purpose is to provide students with an opportunity to talk about their progress with significant people in their lives. This was successfully achieved and the appreciation and support expressed by many of you only encourages us to improve ourselves further.

### Brain development in the Pre-school years

The importance of brain development in early childhood education cannot be emphasized enough. The early years (between 0 to 6 years) are the most crucial period for brain development. There is rapid growth and development of the brain during early childhood. The child’s brain begins developing within a couple of weeks of conception. The brain is known to grow to about 80 percent of the adult size by the age of 3 and 90 percent by the age of 5. In fact, by four years of age, a child’s brain is already 90% of the size of an adult’s brain and the brain has mapped out the way it will communicate with its different parts and the body. During these early years, there is the most opportunity to impact brain development. This is also a time when the brain is the most vulnerable.

While the child is born with most of the brain cells he/she will need to function, it is the experiences that the child has or does not have that help to accomplish the brain’s development.

What they experience by hearing, touching, tasting and sensing becomes the building blocks of the brain. These early experiences, nutrition and stimulation will have an impact on the formation of lasting learning. Many early experiences that guide brain development occur in the warm and secure relationship between a young child and a parent or caregiver. When playing with young children, caregivers need to be sensitive and responsive. The young children develop an understanding of cause-effect relations and their own effectiveness in getting help from others. The emotional security that young children get from their parents and caregivers encourages them to explore their environment with confidence.



The process of brain development in a child is a continuous one. Below are some tips on how you, as parents, can ensure the continued facilitation of the same at home too:

- Set limits on behavior and explain why they are necessary.
- Use appropriate words to describe past or future events. (today, tomorrow, before, after, next)
- During story time ask your child simple questions about the story.
- Encourage your child to sort and match objects during routine tasks. (Where do the forks go?)
- Teach your child songs and finger plays.
- Talk about the sequence of events, tell what comes next.
- Provide access to a computer with appropriate software. Use the computer together.
- Read storybooks to your child.
- Ask your child questions about stories and have your child retell stories.
- Encourage your child to act out stories from books using his/her imagination and different voices for characters.
- Engage in ‘what if’ games to encourage your child’s own storytelling.
- Arrange trips to the library, zoo and special events.
- Play rhyming games with your child.

Hope these tips help in the continued development of the children.

School has been off for about a month now and we miss having the children with us. We look forward to having the children back with us on the 8th of June, 2015 and look towards enhancing their learning journey. We will be having our CRM day on the 6th of June, 2015 and we look forward to meeting all the existing and new parents.

**Have a great Summer Vacation with your little one!**

Warm Regards,

**Mukta Khurana**

Head of Centre