

October / November 2011

We hope you all had a chance to check out the two contests that Kumon North America just sponsored, one on Facebook and the other in partnership with the Ellen DeGeneres show. We had notices of both of these contests posted in the centre. Please be sure to check the notice board for our monthly calendar and other happenings in and around the Kumon centre.

Awards Event 2011

We will be having an "in-centre" awards event this year the last week of November. The children will be expected on their regular class day at their regular times. They will drop off their completed homework and pick up their new work. There will be staff on hand if they have any questions about their assigned work from the previous week. It will be a "no-work" day in class that week. We will have contests and games for them to enjoy for a few moments as they as get any awards that they have worked hard for. We ask that the students bring their family and friends to see the centre and see them get their awards. You may bring your camera if you want to snap a photo of your child.

We will be sending out e-vites to the event in early November. Please note that getting an e-vite does not necessarily mean your child will be getting an award but there will be something for everyone!

Appointment times

Please remember to have the children arrive at their assigned time. If you are delayed for some reason or have arrived early please come in with them to be sure it is alright for them to stay. In some cases, if it is at one of our busiest times, they may only be able to do a drop off/ pick up. If you need a time change for a specific class please phone ahead to check on availability. Thank you.

If students come in to do a drop off/pick up you will be required to come in with them unless you have spoken to us ahead of time. This rule is for the security of your children, especially now that the days are getting shorter.

With the clocks going back in early November please remind your young ones not to leave the waiting area before you arrive to get them. We are not able to supervise them once they leave the main class.

In November the children have a Pro-D day on Monday, November 14th, with the Remembrance Day Stat (Nov.11) this make a 4 day weekend. In that many of our families will be using this time for family activities, we have decided to close for that week (November 8, 11 & 12). We will be spending the time with our grandchildren whom we have not seen for a year. Thank you for your understanding. The students will be given 2 weeks of work the week before.

OCTOBER 2011

NOVEMBER 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
						1 9-3pm			1	2	3	4 3-7pm	5 9-3pm	
2	3	4	5 3-6pm	6	7 3-7pm	8 9-3pm	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
9	10	11	12 3-6pm	13	14 3-7pm	15 *9-3pm	C l o s e d						18	19
16	17	18	19 3-6pm	20	21 3-7pm	22 9-3pm	13	14	15	16 *3-6pm	17	18 3-7pm	19 9-3pm	
23	24	25	26 3-6pm	27	28 3-7pm	29 9-3pm	20	21	22	23 3-6pm	24	25 3-7pm	26 9-3pm	
30	31						27	28	29	30 3-6pm				

Carl Sandburg,
"Arithmetic"

Arithmetic is numbers you squeeze from your head
to your hand to your pencil to your paper till you get
the answer



How to balance your child's studies with after-school activities

Today's families are busy – parents and children alike. A survey shows that the majority of Canadian children (86 per cent) are involved in at least one extracurricular activity this school year. The survey, conducted by Ipsos-Reid for Kumon Math and Reading Centres, also found that on average, children will spend 4.6 hours per week participating in after-school activities. The poll found that team sports is the most popular after-school activity (57 per cent), followed by individual sports (43 per cent), music (31 per cent), school clubs (15 per cent) and dance (12 per cent). But how much is too much?

A Balancing Act

Parents often ask, "How do I know if I've over-scheduled my child?" Dr. Donna McGhie-Richmond, Educational Specialist with Kumon, says parents should look for the following indicators:

Grumpiness – For example, when your star goalie no longer enjoys going to hockey practice or your budding ballerina is reluctant to go off to dance class. It's just not fun any more.

Fatigue – Kids and parents are all tired.

Your child's grades – Parents should ensure that homework is not being shelved in favour of extracurricular activities.

Your child is showing signs of stress, such as regular crying, yelling, or acting-out behaviour. Unusual withdrawal can also mean your child is stressed.

A Family Decision

Dr. McGhie-Richmond says parents should decide how many activities their child should be involved in every week, based on the schedule and the dynamics of their individual family. "That's going to depend on the child, how many children are in the family and what the adults in the family are already doing," she says. "It's really a family decision, and it's important to involve children in that discussion and bring them in on the decision-making."

If children have developed good study habits from a young age, are doing well in school and are not spending time struggling with their homework, they will have more free time available to pursue after-school activities. "Educational programs such as those offered by Kumon help children develop good study habits early so they can free up time to explore other interests. They'll also have more confidence to approach challenging assignments."

Quick Tip

Taking an interest in your child's education shows you care

Did you know...showing an interest in your children's education by getting to know their teachers, establishing a homework routine, creating a positive learning environment at home, and providing appropriate assistance with homework shows that you are interested in your children's education and that you place a high value on their scholastic success? In other words, you care! This advice comes from Dr. Donna McGhie-Richmond, Educational Specialist with Kumon Math and Reading Centres (www.kumon.com).

Education Survey

Parental involvement key when it comes to your child's education

A survey, conducted by Ipsos-Reid for Kumon Math and Reading Centres found that most (94 per cent) Canadian parents are confident they can provide homework support to their children. However, the survey also found that half (51 per cent) of parents spend less than 10 minutes a day helping their kids with homework.

Homework Help

Dr. Donna McGhie-Richmond, Educational Specialist with Kumon (www.kumon.com) offers these homework support guidelines for parents:

1. Kids need routine, so establish a regular homework schedule.
2. Provide a clutter-free and noise-free environment to make concentrating easier.
3. Help your children get organized. Provide the resources they need and make sure they know how to use them.
4. Have your child review the assignment with you so that he or she knows exactly what to do and ask where he or she needs your help.
5. Don't tell your children what to do or do the work for them. Instead, guide them in the right direction so they'll learn to work independently.

Meet with your child's teacher to find out exactly what is expected of your son or daughter during the school year and take advantage of homework guidelines available on school board Web sites.

Early Learning, Head Start

The Kumon/Ipsos-Reid survey found that only one quarter (27 per cent) of parents consider it appropriate to start home-based learning activities with their children before the age of one.

Dr. McGhie-Richmond says, "Parents are their children's first teachers. It's never too early to start teaching your children, and moms and dads should read to them from birth."

According to Dr. McGhie-Richmond, most parents recognize the significance of reading to their kids, but they may not recognize its significance to learning. "Reading sets the foundation for all other learning," she explains.

"Materials such as Kumon Workbooks, available at large bookstore chains, provide parents with more structured tools to encourage math and reading skills with activities such as number games, tracing and mazes."

Young children with siblings notice their older brothers and sisters are involved in more structured learning activities and they want to do the same. If parents see their three or four year olds are ready and eager to learn, a program like Junior Kumon that's flexible can give them a head start and help instil a love of learning.

How Much is Too Much?

The survey shows that the majority (86 per cent) of children will be involved in at least one extracurricular activity during this school year, and that on average, children will participate in two. Parents often wonder how to tell if they are over-scheduling their children. Dr. McGhie-Richmond says, "How much you schedule depends on how many children are in the family, the amount of time parents have for supporting their children, and the time required for each activity. Strike a balance that suits your family."

"Kids who don't struggle with homework have more time to spend on other activities," Dr. McGhie-Richmond says. "That, in turn, gives them more confidence." But if children are struggling to get their homework done, or not doing it because after-school activities have taken priority, there is help available. Programs such as those offered by Kumon can teach your children good study habits so that homework isn't a burden and so that they can free up more time to pursue the activities that interest them most.

Student Achievement tests

Congratulations: Many students did very well last month. The following students completed one or more Kumon levels and have received a certificate since our last newsletter, to these a hearty well done. Keep up the good work.^{es}

From June 20/2011 to September 20/2011

Math	Gaganjit D	Nathan K	Gio O	Tila T
Kyle A	Jasmine D	Gurveer K	Elkan O	Carla T
James A	Tiffany D	Yasmine K	Hardik P	Jerome U
Janet A	Adrian D	Seo H	Naman P	Damien V
Hamza A	Zhe-Hao D	Nicholas K	Kushal P	Nikita V
Johan A	Tony D	Syra L	Manpreet P	Ronit V
Harkirat A	Shehahn E	Seerit L	Kaitlin P	Mehr V
Harkomal A	Trine F	Jasmine L	Jennifer P	Tristan V
Anand B	Kaitlin F	Selina L	Andre P	Serena V
Priya B	Reyjohn F	Brianne L	Daniel Q	Steven V
Sahiba B	Odin G	Trina L	Howie Q	Dan V
Anaiya B	Pema G	Wesley L	Rayyan R	Rebecca V
Imaan B	Ameen G	Sandy L	Ariel R	Elizabeth W
Hannah B	Kristine G	Alexander L	Selina S	Nicholas W
Jeremaeh B	Henry H	Rose M	Osman S	Susan W
Bianca B	Pinder H	Ken M	Yusuf S	Veronica W
Kavraj B	Carmen H	Matthew M	Noor S	Juliet W
Jules C	Willa H	Samuel M	Gajjan S	Suvinya W
Jullian C	Mikayla H	Tristan M	Sanjana S	Evan W
Sarah C	Chad H	Prabir M	Rohil S	Harry X
Ananya C	Sunjot H	Ahmed M	Sonali S	Helena Y
Jessica C	Fawzan H	Mark M	Hasan S	Nicholas Y
Daniel C	Hebah H	Daisy M	Ramsha S	Derek Y
John C	Laura I	Nigel M	Sahejdeep S	Adam Z
Evelyn C	Jolou I	David M	Sabrina S	Jenny Z
John C	Tahir J	Charles M	Anushka S	Heidi Z
Kyla C	Margaret J	Annissa N	Matthew S	
Riquel D	Joshika J	Nikka N	Matthew T	
Jeevyn D	Karen K	Philip N	Jayden T	
Arshdeep D	Jasleen K	Franco O	Neil T	



Reading	Jeevyn D	Karen K	Susan O	Tila T
Stephanie A	Tiffany D	Yasmine K	AYKUT P	Christopher T
Angad A	Adrian D	Sehajveer K	Harmanit P	James T
Chelsea A	Elliot D	Ashlee L	Colin P	Jerome U
Andrew A	David F	Jasmine L	Ashley P	Ronit V
Johan A	Ethan F	Selina L	Jennifer P	Arvind V
Anand B	Earvin G	Bobin L	Zachary P	Alvin V
Sahiba B	Meghan G	Jerry L	Andre P	Mike W
Paul B	Manvir G	Karita L	Daniel Q	Nicholas W
Anaiya B	Gurnia G	Katie L	Nickheel R	Susan W
Gurdaya B	Navkam G	Ken L	Sharon R	Sahib W
Sahib B	Stanford G	Wesley L	Luis R	Harry X
Ethan C	Sannidhi G	Aneka L	Sukhneil S	Derick Y
Jullian C	Savar G	Terence L	Gajjan S	Jack Z
Sarah C	Adison H	Aneet M	Sabthagi S	Lorrieya Z
Ananya C	Howard H	Prabir M	Rathisha S	Alan Z
Alex C	Willa H	Amelia M	Balraj S	
Emily C	Mikayla H	Dan M	George S	
Emily C	Chad H	Arsh M	Himmatt S	
Jessica C	Hebah H	Abdullahi M	Keerat S	
Corinna C	Irfan H	David M	Livneet S	
Roy C	Melissa I	Charles M	Kayleigh S	
Daniel C	Victoria I	Ashleen N	Matthew T	
John C	Tahir J	Nikka N	Ysabelle T	
Anthony C	Margaret J	Christina N	Jake T	
Jonathan C	Vishav J	Stephanie N	Enzo T	
Richard d	Farhan K	Philip N	Navdeep T	
Riquel D	Salena K	Ryan N	Jacob T	



Reminders



Our next new parent meetings are:

Sat. Oct.15th 4-5pm

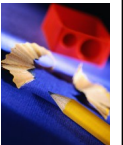
Weds. Nov.16th 7-8pm

Brain Teaser for this month:

Rachel had to buy school supplies for the fall term. At the first store, she bought her notebooks for half of what she had. At the second stop, she spent half of what she had plus \$5 on computer supplies. At the third stop, she spent one-half of what was left plus \$1.



She had \$5 left. How much did she start with?



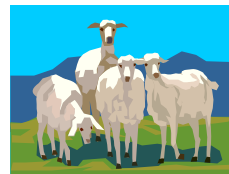
(Algebra will help)

See Mr. Miljure with your answer

Last Newsletter



Brain Teaser Answer



The winner for this A farmer has 9 sheep standing in a field and all but 8 drop down and die, how many are left standing?

The answer is 8 sheep are standing. Think about it.

Our winners for this month are:

Prabir M. & Navkiran G.