



Smartkids Thao Dien Talk

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Getting ready for Big School or Big Kids

If your child is starting "Big School" after the summer, you maybe approaching this major milestone with conflicting emotions.

You are probably excited about all the fun your child will have and the new friends he will make. At the same time, you may feel a little sad that your child is venturing out into the big world without you and the protected, family atmosphere in SmartKids.

These emotions are normal. Your child will also have a host of feelings about this transition; feeling proud to be a "Big Kid", but at the same time worried about starting something unfamiliar.

There is a lot you can do in the weeks before, to get ready for the big day. Try to keep your efforts low key. If you make too big a deal out of this milestone, your child may end up being more worried than excited. Here are some useful tips.

Use pretend play to explore the idea of the new school/group. Take turns being the child, parent and new teacher. Act out common daily routines such as saying goodbye, singing, circle time, outside play, lunch time. Reassure your child that the new school is a good place where he will have fun and learn. Answer his questions patiently.

Read books about going to a new school. Talk about how the characters in the book are feeling. Ask how your child is feeling.

Visit the school with your child before the school starts, drive past the school a few times.

This all will increase your child's comfort and confidence in this new setting.

(from www.zerotothree.org)

At SmartKids we prepare the children who will move in August to the "Big Kids" for this important transition.

First of all we will talk about the fact that they will move up. After that we introduce them to their new class by making small visits to their new class and teacher. Some children might already want to stay for lunch, snack or circle time.

The children who move from "Big Kids" to International Primary Schools, have been already for visits with their parents. On top of that we organize an extra visit only with friends who will go to the same school and their (old) teacher from SmartKids.

Children who move to another country are also prepared by talking and reading books about this important change in their life's.

Dear Parents,

Another "school year" has come to an end! Time flies!

SmartKids will already celebrate it's 6th birthday, coming October.

In the mean time we have 3 locations and around 125 children.

I want to thank all our staff for their continuous support and hard work. They are dedicated and professional early childhood specialists who try everyday to make it another exciting, happy day for your child in which learning through play is the focus.

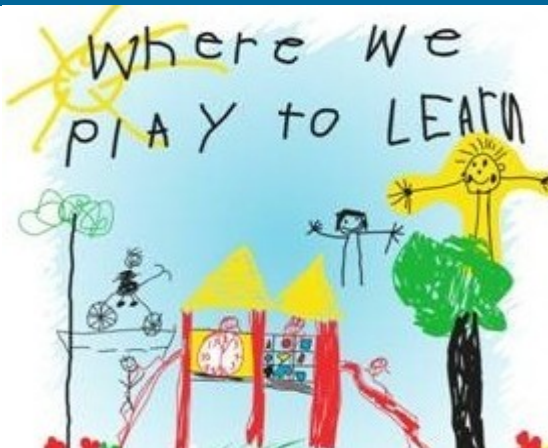
I also would like to take this opportunity to thank all parents for the great support and enthusiasm they have given us this year.

I wish you a good holiday and I hope to see you and your children back in August!

Best regards,

Joke (Yoko) Otter - van Zuijlen, pedagogue

General Director ICCC SmartKids Ltd.



SmartKids will close on the 20th of June 2012.

The "New Year" starts on the 20th of August 2012.

On the 17th of August 2012 there will be a coffee morning (from 09.00 to 11.00 a.m.) for all children and parents, in order to meet the teachers and friends.

In August we will have some changes in staff in the Thao Dien Location.

The Green room stays like it is with Ms. Chloe as teacher and Ms. Thuy, Men and Yen as assistants.

The Yellow room has Ms. Katy as teacher and Ms. Trang and Nhien as assistants. Ms. Jasmin will move to Tran Ngoc Dien.

The Blue room will have Ms. Monique as teacher and Ms. Nhu as assistant. Most of you already know Ms. Nhu as she is already working here.

The red room will have a new teacher, Ms. Viviane. Ms. Hanh will be the assistant in the red room. Most of the parents have met Ms. Viviane as she came over to meet the children. We wish Ms. Katie all the best for the future and thank her for all the work she has done. Ms. Thanh will move to Tran Ngoc Dien.

Ms. Tiffany from reception has moved to Tran Ngoc Dien and will be the Personal Assistant from the Location Manager there. Ms. Yen (personal assistant) is back after giving birth to a healthy baby boy.