PARENT EXPERIENCES WITH KINDERGARTENS PILOTING THE NEW CURRICULUM

My kid no longer asks me to pick her up earlier, now she tells to come a little later!

Children are very inquisitive, asking all kinds of questions. They bring back materials about what they have done at kindergarten. This is positive because they learn a great deal. We parents also get involved in the learning process and we end up talking to them about things that we never thought we’d be talking about.

The children don’t feel less important just because they’re small; they take part in everything on an equal footing.

The things they learn at kindergarten, concrete things, about the world around them – these are things they will not forget. The things they learn at kindergarten are things they will immediately experience at kindergarten and then at home. Even the children’s attitude to learning has changed.

Every child has a unique set of abilities, interests and experiences. Our role is to help all children discover and develop to their full potential.

Childhood is a unique and extraordinary period in life, of intrinsic value in its own right. At an early age, children have vast learning potential; they are active, curious, determined, receptive and capable of establishing relationships and understanding the world around them.

The new Preschool Curriculum Framework recognizes the importance of preschool education for the development of the skills necessary for lifelong learning, such as self-confidence, openness, curiosity, perseverance, resilience and creativity. The symbolically titled ‘Years of Ascent’ promotes a curriculum designed through a participatory approach, in an inspiring and stimulating environment for the child, where children can freely explore, play, reflect, work with others, experiment and get to know the world around them.

I like the fact that, as a parent, I am informed about and involved in all kindergarten activities. We very much like how parents and teachers work with the children as a team and how all of us are involved in the curriculum.
WHY ARE PARENT AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT IMPORTANT?

Adults are an important part of a child’s world. Their role is to create a safe and enabling environment in which a child will feel happy, safe and valued. The best way to support children’s progress is to monitor their needs, take their opinion and ideas into account and involve them in important topics.

WHAT WILL MY CHILD LEARN IN THE NEW CURRICULUM?

The new Preschool Curriculum Framework emphasizes the quality of the relationships children develop with their peers and with adults; the role of the physical environment in inspiring play, exploration and learning; and collaboration with parents and the community.

Play is encouraged and supported as the most natural way of learning, inspiring children to reflect and gain new insights and important life skills.

The new curriculum framework encourages children to develop quality relationships with adults and peers through play, exploration and teamwork in different activities which engage all the senses and the body.

Physical environment becomes an inspiring and stimulating environment for learning and is transformed into a shared area for social interaction, play and exploration.

The forging of stronger bonds between children and others is encouraged through parent involvement, by engaging children, preschool teachers and parents in joint activities, and also through engaging the local community.

WHY IS INTERACTION WITH OTHERS IMPORTANT?

By establishing relationships, children learn to understand their own needs, feelings and actions, to communicate and interact, and to accept others and be accepted.

Through play, exploration and group activities, children are encouraged to use speech to explore their own thoughts and feelings, to be creative and to solve problems.

Through their interaction with others, children gain self-confidence, and they learn to be independent and responsible, as well as to cope with different situations and be committed to what they do.

Children are an important part of society and have the right to be involved in making decisions that affect them. Their opinion is valuable and should be taken into account.

PARENT INVOLVEMENT IN THE CURRICULUM WILL HELP CHILDREN DEVELOP TO THEIR POTENTIAL, AS WELL AS FEEL SAFE, HAPPY, ACCOMPLISHED AND ACCEPTED.