

Making the most of the rest of the school year

With a new year upon us and one school term left, questions about making the most of the remainder of the school year come readily to mind. The good news is there is still time left for your children to make further progress.

Kumon Canada is pleased to offer the following tips to help families achieve positive results throughout the term:

- Don't give up...your child still has a chance to make improvements.
- If your child has poor study skills or lacks organizational skills, use this time to enroll your child in a course to develop those areas. This can have a positive impact across all subjects.
- Focus – look at what needs to be improved from your child's most recent report card and take the appropriate action. For example, if your child struggles with a particular subject area such as math or reading, enroll your child in a supplemental education program focused on those subjects.
- Encourage your child to read actively by making notes and discussing what was just read.
- Provide your child with a dictionary, a thesaurus and other reference materials.
- Encourage your child to keep neat notes and review them daily.
- If your child is struggling with difficult novels, obtain helpful resources such as study notes or Internet-based study aids.
- If your child is having trouble retaining class materials, encourage your child to review material several times until it is learned. Use acronyms (short forms) to aid memory.
- If your child struggles with public-speaking, word processing or reading up to grade level, seek help – there are courses that are designed to help improve these key areas.

- If you know that your child has a personal conflict with one of his or her teachers, teach your child ways to improve this relationship (e.g. be respectful, be polite, etc.).
- Have your child proofread his or her work to check for errors.
- Encourage your child to study. Practice makes perfect.
- Encourage your child to talk with the teacher if unsure of a concept.
- Spend quality time with your child, where you can sit down and plan assignments, homework and study schedules for the next week.
- Help your child be more organized by putting a large calendar on the wall to keep track of important dates and assignments. This calendar should be erasable.
- Ensure that your child has agenda books to keep track of assignments and tests.

Remember – the steps that your child takes over the next few months to improve academic performance can also result in larger strides and longerterm success next year and beyond.

For information on how the Kumon program can help unlock your child's potential, please call 1-800- ABC-MATH, or visit www.kumon.ca.