

Dear OMA Parents and Friends,

In 2012, OMA has quite a few exciting news to share and to celebrate :

1. We celebrated our third anniversary in April. It has been a fruitful and exciting 3 years.
2. OMA has a new family member – the OMA Studio next door at unit 20.
3. We have been granted the Private School status in October - after an inspection from the Ontario Ministry of Education.

Since its inception in 2009, OMA has been diligently upholding our motto – **Learn to Read; Read to Learn.** We are proud of our teaching philosophy - Literacy for All Students. In order for our students to learn to read, they have to be teachable; in order to be teachable, they have to be approachable; in order to be approachable, they have to be communicable; in order for the student to learn to be communicable, they MUST develop unquestionable trust in the teachers. Therefore, building a trusting relationship is always the first step of any OMA program. As students become more relaxed and open with the teacher, with their support they are more willing to try and explore. Gradually, learning becomes more of an excitement than an ordeal. The habit of learning, the confidence in experimenting, the courage of accepting mistakes and learning from them are some of the most important life skills OMA tries to give to our students. With these skills, our children are on their ways to learning how to learn.

The added space next door means more than just space. It offers a wealth of new experiences to our students. The dance studio gives our students the opportunities to share the joy of music, to learn dance movements and to take karate lessons. The group activity room allows students to have lessons in a classroom setting. The library offers opportunities to learn and practise appropriate social behaviours at community libraries. We are now offering a well-rounded curriculum that encompasses arts and culture as well as social skills. These new programs will ensure our students are stimulated both intellectually and physically.

As OMA evolves into a private school, we expand our focus in our academic programs to follow the Ontario Curriculum more closely. We offer our students the opportunity to challenge themselves with academic work, especially those who are in the main stream education system. For those students who are still working towards joining the main stream system, we will help them achieve their learning goals with our individualized curriculum.

Parents are reporting significant improvements and new-found capabilities in their children. However, we know all that success would not have been possible without super supportive families. Hopefully, one day we can win the co-operation of the schools. Together, this golden web of learning can work magic. This is the OMA Christmas wish!

Before 2012 closes, OMA would like to express our sincere gratitude to our parents who have entrusted OMA with their children; our generous donors who donated their time and/or money to help some of the needy students; those who have donated toys and educational material to enrich our programs; and those who so selflessly supported other parents.

The OMA community is a family and let's keep it that way.

Welcome 2013

Happy Holidays, everyone !



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