

Successful Parent-Teacher Interviews

Learning is a partnership and we encourage you to continue to be involved in your child's education. As parent teacher interviews are upon us, we encourage you to take this opportunity to find out about your child's progress. Report cards will be sent home soon. Below are some questions and tips that you may find useful for the interview. Interpreters are available. Please contact your child's teacher or indicate your requirements on the parent-teacher interview form.

Great Questions to Ask

- What skills does my child need to work on?
- What activities can we do at home to strengthen those skills?
- Does my child do his/her homework and assignments efficiently and conscientiously?
- Is my child facing any struggles in class not related to her/his schoolwork?

Interview Tips

- Talk to your child about school before the interview. Ask how they think they are doing and how the teacher can help them meet their goals.
- Get an idea of what the curriculum is like, the level your child is working at, and areas where they are struggling.
- Make a list of what you want to know before you go into the interview. You can even prepare questions ahead of time if it will make you feel more at ease. Knowing what you want to know and writing it down ensures that you don't forget anything, and that you get the information you need.
- Be open and honest. Feel free to add your own observations around your child's behaviour, strengths and weaknesses.
- Find out what they're learning. Ask curriculum questions. Find out what your child has learned and what is coming up in the term ahead. Know the skills your child will need to be successful in the term ahead (i.e. knowing how to multiply and divide fractions)
- Ask about strengths and weaknesses and possible problems. Find out about problems before they happen. Building on weaknesses allows students to get help before they fall behind.
- Find out how often and how much homework is being assigned. Also ask if your child is completing his/her homework regularly, how long the work assigned should take to complete and does the teacher correct the homework regularly. The answers to these questions will help you better monitor your child's homework habits.
- Ask what you can do at home to help your child. Make a commitment to support your child by monitoring their homework, and helping them learn specific skills.

