<<Bhamini Makwana>>

Thank you Ms. Hira and Ms. Sofia.

Good afternoon …

Oh Come on..one more time..Good afternoon…

Thank you all for being here. We have an exciting program today. I request all the parents to stay till the end to support all our students and also not miss the important announcements we have at the end.

I would like to welcome our special guest Ms. Denise from Kumon Chicago Branch office. I would like to thank you, Denise to be here to support our students in celebrating their success. I would request Ms. Denise to say a few words.

<<Denise Speech>>

<< Thank you, Denise>>

I would also like to recognize, all the Kumon staff who is doing an outstanding job at carrying out our mission and maximizing each child’s potential. They are my eyes and ears and without their help, it would be impossible for me to keep track of how everyone is doing. I would like to thank all my staff members for their hard work! Please give a round of applause to all our staff as well.

<< Applause>>

<<Group 1 from 1 to 29 line up>>

It just seems like yesterday when we had our last award ceremony. How many of you were here for the last ceremony? Raise your hands please?

Do you remember what was the theme of our last ceremony??

I will give you two choices: a). Positive Attitude b). Growth Mindset

Wait for kids to answer…

The theme was about Growth Mindset.

Our this year’s theme is about Motivation.

Parents always ask me,, “What should I do to motivate my child?”

So What is Motivation?

Motivation is a drive that encourages an action or a feeling. To motivate means to encourage and inspire. In other words, motivation can be defined as motive for action. It is a force that can literally change your life.

The question is, can we motivate people? The answer is Absolutely Not! Because motivation is action. I cannot act for you. You have to act for yourself.

What we can do is inspire them. Why? Inspiration is thinking and when thinking changes, it starts reflecting in your behavior.

So How does Motivation Work?

Motivation is of two types: External and Internal.

External motivation comes from external or outside forces. For example, do your homework and you can watch TV, or I will buy you a toy or some other kinds of “object” is received in return for accomplishing a task. In this type of motivation the outside forces/objects control your life. In external motivation, a student can as far as a parent call pull them. External motivation stays as long as the incentives stays. When the incentive is gone, the motivation is also gone. So external motivation is short term and temporary. However, it certainly works for younger students, and is important until a student develops internal motivation.

Internal motivation on the other hand is the inner gratification, not for success or winning, but for the fulfillment that comes from having done something. Internal motivation is lasting, because it comes from within and translates into self-motivation. With this motivation, a child will go to the maximum of his/her ability. (there is no cap in one’s ability…..)

It raises two major questions: Why do people get demotivated? And Who or what motivates them?

The most powerful motivation comes from within our own belief system.

Our belief system is the most incredible. Henry Ford said “Whether you think you can or you think you can’t you are right”.

If you believe you will succeed, it will change the way you think, it will change the way you utilize your physical and mental intellectual resources, the optimism will get generated, the conviction and undying enthusiasm will help you succeed.

Let’s watch a small video about the belief system.

<<belief Video>>

Now, I am sure you want to know what are the factors which affect our belief system and inspire intrinsic motivation..right? But before we do that….Let us first recognize our youngest kids who have joined recently and are working towards their honor roll.

We will call Ms. Hira and Ms. Sofia back to stage

As we start, I would request all the parents to please hold the applause till the whole group is ready to take picture.

Also, I request all the to stay till the end as we will continue to discuss how to develop and growth mindset and how parents can support their children.

We will start with Achievement awards. These students are working towards Honor Roll levels.

<< Group 1 to 3>>

So before the awards, we saw that we cannot motivate anyone..but We can create the atmosphere for the student’s growth to help them inspire which in turn will generate motivation. The factors which influence the atmosphere are:

**Autonomy**: Providing students with freedom of choice… with Kumon they have a choice to study above and beyond their grade level. They can even graduate from Kumon…. meaning having to complete up to high school level materials before completing high school. They have this freedom here with KUMON! What we need to cultivate is the culture of Finish what you start and how to accomplish the goal.

**Competence**: feeling that one has the ability to be successful in doing it.

**Relatedness**: doing the activity helps them feel more connected to others, and feel cared about by people whom they respect. In short, get Recognition and Respect.

**Relevance:** the work must be seen by students as interesting and valuable to them, and useful to their present lives and/or hopes and dreams for the future.

One of the most powerful factor to promote student growth is to Finish what you start. Why is this important? Because to finish what you start requires discipline. And discipline requires consistent and focused action. You need to have a degree of control over what needs to happen and how it can be done.

In order to finish what you start, we need to have goals. However in order to achieve a goal, we need to have short term goals and long term goals. Having goals and meeting those goals is an important factor in self-motivation. So how do we stop procrastinating and finish what we start?

Ramit procrastinating video

<< https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iYynJ7E5KGQ>>

When we talk about finishing what you start, today we have live examples of students who have endured this long term kumon journey. Some of these kids have been with me for 10 years!! They started with me when they were 3 and now they are in their teens. Yes, I am talking about the kumon graduates! It takes years of commitment, discipline, grit and positive mind set to be a Kumon graduate! Students who are coming up personifies these skills in them. I would like to congratulate the families as well for cultivating and fostering these skills in these students.

This year we have <<XX>> number of graduates. All Graduates, please stand..

Please give them all a round of applause!! Some of these graduates will be sharing their thoughts about their kumon journey…

<<let us now continue with the awards>>

We are now presenting Graduate Awards.

Let’s hear from our Graduate : Ayush Khot

So continuing with our topic on Motivation..we covered belief system and finish what you start. The next factor which plays an important role is ‘Competence’. Competence is the feeling that one has the ability and be successful in doing it. And in order to be successful at doing something, we have to do it consistently with discipline. Constant Practice is key to success.

When someone asked tiger woods, what’s the secret of your success? He said 3 words. Practice. Practice. Practice.

So let me ask you all something. If you play soccer everyday for 10 hours for 5 years, what would you become after 5 years? Ronaldo, Pele? Maybe..or Maybe Not. But you will definitely become better at soccer. Right?

If you practice basket ball for 10 hours every day for 5 years…what would you become after 5 years? Michael Jordan? Maybe..or Maybe not. But you will definitely become better at Basket ball…Right?

So if you do your Kumon every day for 5 years..what would you become after 5 years? Maybe you graduate from the Program..or Maybe Not. But you will definitely become better at Math and Reading..Right?

With practice, we get Better and GREAT at what WE PRACTICE with GREAT FOCUS OVER A LONG PERIOD OF TIME!

The wall of a well is made of stone and the rope to draw the water is made of grass or cloth, but the constant moving of the rope on the stone has such an effect that even the stone develops a groove in it. That is the power of repetition and constant practice.

<< Motivational Video>>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a-juqUSfL2I>

<<AWARDS DISTRIBUTION>>

So Continuing our motivation topic, we have so far covered belief system. finish what you start and Constant Practice.

The next factor which controls the student motivation is relatedness - Doing an activity helps us feel cared about by people whom we love and respect. Basically we crave to get recognized for the work we put in.

We nourish the bodies of our children, but how seldom we nourish their self-esteem? We provide them with good food to build energy, but we neglect to give them kind words of appreciation that would sing in their memories for years like the music of the morning stars.

There is a story about a blind boy named Stevie Morris in a classroom in Detroit. One day in his class, while doing an experiment, a mouse escaped and everyone was trying to find it. The teacher specifically asked Stevie to help them find the mouse that was lost in the classroom. You see, she appreciated the fact that nature had given Stevie something no one else in the room had. Nature had given Stevie a remarkable pair of ears to compensate for his blind eyes. But this was really the first time Stevie had been shown appreciation for those talented ears. Now years later, he says that this act of appreciation was the beginning of a new life. You see from that time on, he developed his gift of hearing and went on to become, under the stage name of Stevie Wonder, one of the great pop singers and song writers of the seventies!!

One of the most neglected virtues of our daily existence is appreciation. Somehow we neglect to praise our son or daughter when he or she brings home a good report card, and we fail to encourage our children when they first succeed in baking a cake or building a birdhouse.

Nothing pleases children more than this kind of parental interest and approval.

But how do you appreciate? Yes…there are right and wrong ways to show your kids the appreciation.

<<Lets have a small quiz for parents>> Parental Quiz

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L2S7HkWHkWs>

We will call Ms. Hira and Ms. Sofia back to stage

I would also like to remind parents that please sit through the complete program to recognize all the kids. It’s our duty to recognize each and every one of these kids – because what they do is not easy and I am sure we can spend some time today to give them the honor they deserve.

<< Group 4 to 7>>

<< Our next speaker is Ananya Handa, who is 8th grader and graduated from Kumon reading program, and now in level L in math>>

Let’s hear from our Graduate : Ananya Handa

<<Thank You, Ananya>>

When a student studies above their grade level materials that is when they are maximizing their capacity.

We will call Ms. Hira and Ms. Sofia back to stage

<< Group 8 to 11>>

Congratulations!! To all the award recipients!

This concludes this year’s ceremony

On behalf of all my staff and I, we wish you all the best, and Congratulations to students and parents.

Please have all the staff on the stage after you had the children to parents.