

Happy kindergarten, how about elementary school?



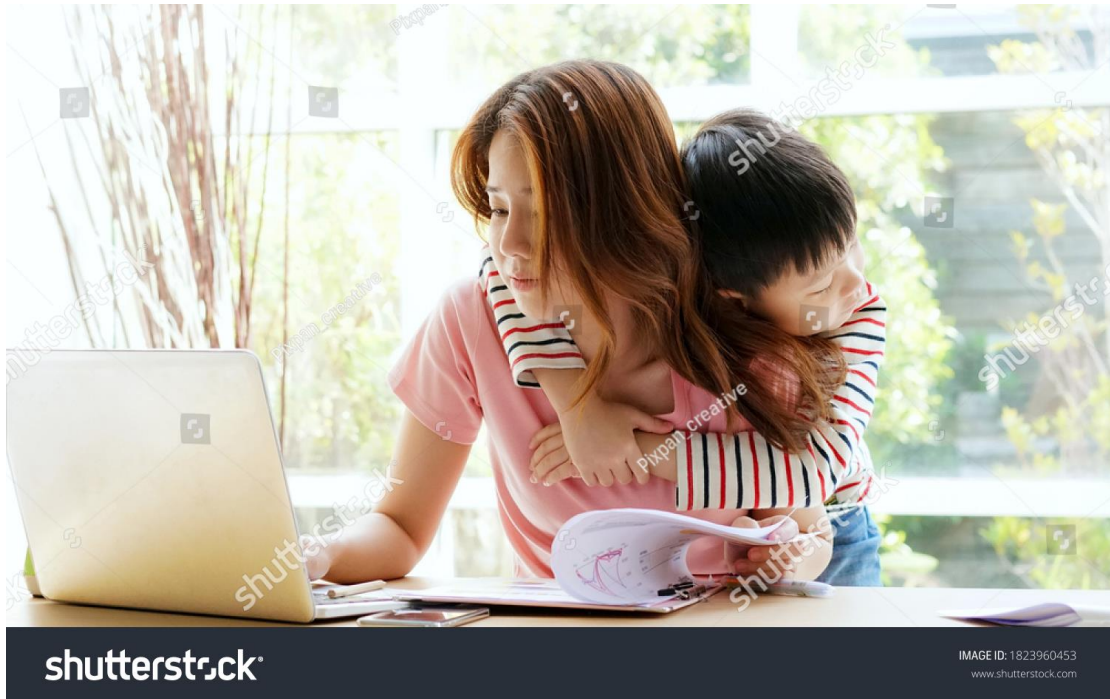
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Written by: Octopus parent, Mr. Leung Wing Lok.

I've heard many parents share their experiences, and within the three years of kindergarten, the biggest concern is the transition to elementary school. How much should be done for the child? Should interview classes be arranged? Should extra English lessons or etiquette coaching (not a typo, there are actually training classes for etiquette) be arranged? Among the myriad of skills, is having sixteen talents out of eighteen enough? Or should the child learn niche skills to stand out, like magic tricks or acrobatics? Both parents and children are busy enjoying quality bonding time, especially when every activity has a purpose. As a result, attitudes change, and the child might lose interest in extracurricular classes.

Parents worry about selecting the preferred elementary school and creating resumes.

Especially for K3 students entering the "peak school application season" in June, parents and children face the decision of whether to apply to 10 or 8 elementary schools. As a father, you may hope to only apply to one or two preferred elementary schools, but can you bear the responsibility of "not providing enough education" for your child?



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Another challenge is undoubtedly creating the resume, how elaborate should it be? Many schools explicitly state that they accept a maximum of only 4 pages, but you see other parents' "work reports" for their children that are as thick as prospectuses, with an exquisite level of presentation rivaling Apple's brochures. You glance at your child, he might not stand out particularly, nor is he an incredibly handsome "lad." Do you have the courage to limit the resume to just 4 pages?

The choice between "entering elementary school" and "becoming a person."

What's most precious isn't how outstanding the "academic performance" is, but rather the ability to interact with others, to be polite. Of course, what I'm most grateful for is when the teacher specifically instructed my son to "love Daddy, Daddy works hard," transforming me in my child's eyes from a "rarely seen person" to a "cherished person to meet." These teachings might not necessarily aid in entering elementary school, but they hold everlasting value in the parent-child relationship.

Reflecting back, did kindergarten primarily cultivate your child for "entering elementary school," or for "becoming a person"? Facing the same question, as a parent, is your goal of educating your child solely for the purpose of "entering elementary school"?