

## KUMON of Seattle

### University Village

Monday & Thursday

2:30-7:00 p.m.

*NOTE: Closed Monday,  
Jan 16<sup>th</sup> for MLK Holiday*

### Queen Anne at Interbay

Tuesday & Friday

3:00-6:00 p.m.

## January 2012

**1** Get Ready for An  
Amazing 2012!

**2** Resolutions for  
2012

**3** New Gift Card  
Policy

### Get Ready For An Amazing New Year!

I hope you had a wonderful holiday!

My family-husband, Jim, and our kids Jamie, Sara, Peter & Tom-stayed at home again this year. We had celebrated Thanksgiving at Sara's place in Washington D.C. so this was the first time Peter & Tom were home to see their high school friends since leaving for college in August. I was so happy! After a very calm and quiet fall with just my husband and our 2 pugs at home, it was great to have kids coming and going at all hours, peaking downstairs to see which friends had slept over and making sure that there was enough food in the house (there never was!). We watched a lot of football and basketball, did yoga and spin classes together at the MAC (Magnuson Athletic Club), went to the Book-It Theater production of "A Prayer for Owen Meany", did our annual walk around Green Lake and, as always, saw the Christmas Ships at Matthews Beach. I even went to a few Bikram Yoga classes!

Jamie is working hard in his first year as a lawyer in Manhattan for Sullivan&Cromwell. Sara is completing her stint with Teach for America in D.C. and is applying to graduate schools. Peter & Tom had a lot of reading to do over the break for school. Peter is on the swim team at Pomona and had to go to swim practices almost every day. It was a great holiday for my family. I hope yours was wonderful, as well.

You may have heard the radio ad I ran over the holidays. In it I talk about my experience as a KUMON mom, and how it made all the difference for Jamie, and then for my other kids.

As KUMON parents you know full well that it is not always easy helping your child stay on track and motivated to continue with KUMON study. You probably have the same experience that I had-periods of complaining, whining, procrastinating and down-right refusing to do the daily work. These tough times tend to be evened out with periods of less resistance and even self-motivation. I know from experience that KUMON can feel like a battle at times.

But I promise that it is a battle worth fighting. The skills, discipline, brain power and confidence that your child develops through KUMON study will not only help them to succeed in the near future, but will set the course for their future achievement. I've said this before, but it bears repeating. It seems like only yesterday that Jamie was failing math in 4<sup>th</sup> grade. When I found KUMON for him, I was desperate. I just wanted him to be "OK". I never, ever imagined Harvard Law School. Amazing things can happen!

My staff and I are committed to your child's success in our program and in school. We have worked with thousands of students over the years, including our own children. We are so proud of our status as the #1 KUMON Center in the Pacific Northwest. We are proud to offer our quality KUMON program to the families in UVillage and Interbay. We are looking forward to an amazing 2012 with your children!

### KUMON Resolutions for 2012!

Reaffirm your commitment to your child's academic success by including KUMON in your family's New Year Resolutions.

1. **Commit to attend all classes and complete homework daily.** If you are absent, be sure to pick up assignments. Just give us a call or e-mail ([Jeannie@kumonofseattle.com](mailto:Jeannie@kumonofseattle.com)) and we will put together enough packets to last until your next class day.
2. **Work with your child to create a daily KUMON routine.** If possible, make breakfast time "KUMON time". This worked so well for me when my own kids were in elementary school.
3. **Remind your child that completing KUMON is like brushing your teeth** – even though you don't always feel like it, you need to do it every day to stay strong and healthy.
4. **Schedule the KUMON work before completing school work.** This warms up the brain and makes school home work easier.
5. **Parents- home grade the daily work and ensure your child completes all corrections to 100%.** *We cannot emphasize how effective this is in helping your child to stay on track and make smooth, fast progress.* Answer books are available!

6. **Verbally acknowledge your child's accomplishments.** Praise them for their hard work and effort. A little praise really goes a long way!
7. **Read the Monthly Newsletter and Website.** Please be sure to read the monthly newsletter that we send home and post on our website. We work hard to keep our families up to date not only on center closures, but also on issues that are current, helpful and of interest to our KUMON families. For example, on our homepage now is an article from a Canadian Journal on "Why Alex Can't Add (or Subtract, Multiply or Divide), discussing the taboo towards "rote learning" in Canadian schools and its' unfortunate consequences, something Seattle families are familiar with.
8. **Let us help!** My staff and I are here to help you. We are here to support your child and work with you as a team. Our highest priority is to help your child make strong, fast progress this year.

### New Gift Card Policy

We are making a change to our policy regarding the gift cards that students can choose for either completing a level or saving 10 tickets. In order to help us have a more consistent supply on hand, we will have the gift cards available the last week of each month. If a student wants to choose a gift card as a reward for, say, completing an Achievement Test earlier in the month, we will give them the red ticket, which is worth 10 tickets or a gift card. They can save it and use it when the gift cards are available.

Now that Barnes&Noble is gone, we will be looking for other ideas for a non-food gift card for our students. Please let us know if you have any ideas.

Thanks!