



July 2, 2014

Dear Rooms 4 & 6 Families and Students,

During the last five years, the King School community has worked continuously to develop, build, and strengthen the Chinese Immersion Program. This September, Yi-Chin Tien and Elizabeth Hill will join together to teach our youngest immersion students in your classrooms.

Ms. Tien and Ms. Hill bring considerable knowledge and teaching experience to our school and the Immersion Kindergarten classrooms. A brief note of introduction from both teachers is included in this letter. I am very pleased that their transition and work will be supported by Ms. Szu-Ming Li, Ms. Tori Corpas, Ms. Kelly Petitt, and Ms. Monica Leon. Having the support of the initial Immersion Kindergarten teaching team, the Literacy Coach, and Mathematics Coach will help us to continue to develop and provide appropriate, responsive, engaging, and innovative curricula and programming for our Junior Kindergarteners and Kindergarteners.

As the summer continues Ms. Tien, Ms. Hill, and I will meet to plan the classroom transitions and back to school events. The teachers will contact you and your child in August to obtain information about your child and family and send a warm “Hello” before the start of school. You and your child/ren may also want to come out and join our families at one of the King Summer Playdates (dates and locations follow).

I hope that you and your family have a safe, relaxing, and enjoyable summer.

Thank you,

Gerald Yung

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Greetings,

My name is Yi-Chin Tien. I am the new Mandarin teacher in the Chinese Immersion JK/K class.

I received my Masters of Arts in School Counseling from Boston College and I hold a Bachelors Degree from National Taipei University of Education. During the past four years, I have worked as a Chinese Immersion classroom teacher and a bilingual school counselor in the Chinese Immersion Charter School in western Massachusetts.

I love to work with young children and help them to be successful in school. In my teaching, I differentiate the curriculum to meet students’ needs. I use thematic units to integrate different subjects with Chinese culture. Students not only learn academic content in Chinese, but they also have the chance to be exposed to and immersed in Chinese culture. I am very impressed by how quickly a child can pick a new language in an immersion setting.

In my previous teaching experience, I have noticed that non-academic issues have often have a significant impact on a child’s school performance. Therefore, besides supporting my students’ development in academics, I also strive to help my students’ emotional and behavioral development. Through my counseling training, I have honed my classroom management skills and I have an enhanced ability to accommodate the needs of all learners.

It is my pleasure to join the big family of Martin Luther King, Jr. School and I am looking forward to meeting each student and their family.

Regards,

Yi-Chin Tien

Hello!

My name is Elizabeth Hill; students call me Ms. Liz. I have volunteered, interned, and worked in several schools and classrooms in the Cambridge Public School District, as I completed my Masters in Early Childhood Education, at Lesley University. I am thrilled to now have the opportunity to teach in a JK/K setting in the King School. I am interested in the skills and interests that young children bring to school.

Prior to teaching, I worked in art and history museums and studied cultural anthropology. I love learning about how people live, life in different places and times, and how people learn. I am particularly interested in language acquisition, the social nature of leaning, social justice in education, and how the mind and brain work when we learn. I also love reading, bubbles, and butterflies!

I am looking forward to providing opportunities to build friendships, share books, learn math, explore our community, and work on drawing, writing and talking. I am invested in creating a safe and engaging environment in which to learn and in fostering a life-long love of learning and school. I hope to build a strong relationship with each child and get to know every family. Later this summer I will send a letter and share our classroom blog information.

If you would like to send me a picture, a post card, or a letter, I would love to hear from you!

Please send mail to:

Ms. Liz Hill, Kindergarten Teacher
Martin Luther King, Jr. School
359 Broadway, Cambridge 02139

Have a safe and relaxing summer; I look forward to meeting all of you soon.

Thank you,

Liz Hill

King School Playdates

Location: Fayette Street Playground

Wednesday July 9th 10 – noon

Saturday July 19th 10 – noon

Saturday August 16th 10 – noon

Wednesday August 20th 10 – noon

