maghouses's column February 2024

辰年の新年は能登地震や航空機事故と大きな災害が相次ぎました。マグハウスではちょうど 昨年から地震や風水害などへの危機管理対策を強化しようとマニュアルや避難訓練の見直しを 行ったところです。

保育者はどんなに大きな災害が起きても子どもたちを安全に守り抜くという強い思いを持っています。また、子どもたちも訓練時には真剣に机の下にもぐりダンゴムシのポーズをとったり、整然と避難行動するなど落ち着いた様子に感心するばかり。子どもたちの潜在能力はほんとにスゴイ!(K)

The Year of the Dragon began with successive major disasters: the Noto earthquake and the airline accident. Just last year, maghouse began strengthening our emergency response measures for natural disasters by revising our manual and evacuation procedures.

Childcare providers like us are committed to protecting children to the fullest no matter how great the disaster. Seeing our own magkids huddle under desks, take the roly-poly pose, and proceed through evacuation drills in a calm and orderly fashion is quite impressive. The natural potential in children is indeed amazing. (K)

Maghouse's column January 2024

今日はお勧めTED Talkを一つご紹介。

「すべての子どもが5歳までに健やかに成長するために」というタイトルですが、なんとプレゼンターは7歳の女の子!

これだけでもびっくりですが、プレゼンターのモーリー・ライトさんは、幼児にとって遊びがいかに大切で、親や周りにいる大人と信頼関係を作るということを楽しく話してくれています。

内容ももちろん素晴らしいですが、オーストラリア人の7歳のライトさんの堂々としたプレゼンの 様子にも圧倒されます。(U)

I recently heard a memorable TED Talk…

"How Every Child Can Thrive by Five" was astonishingly given by a 7-year-old girl!

However, the presenter's age was not

the only surprise, as Molly Wright entertainingly demonstrated how important playing is for tots in building relationships of trust with parents and other adults.

Both the message and the confident delivery of this young Australian girl were powerful. (U)



maghouse's column December 2023

秋の保育参加では子どもたちの「自分でできる能力の高さ」をご理解いただけたと思います。 今の時代、子どもたちの外遊びの機会が減っていて運動能力(体力)の低下がいわれています。そんな 背景もあって、マグハウスでは外遊びの時間をたっぷりとって体力づくりをしているせいか、子どもた ちは歩くのが大好きです。

昨秋、都立大学の幼児クラス児が子ども会議で東京タワー見学を全員一致で決め、最上階まで歩いて登りきりました。子どもたちの好奇心と体力が大人の「登れるかしら?」の予想を覆しました。

今年も12月。年末年始のお休みにはおうちでの掃除やクッキングなどのお手伝いを頼んで「やる気」を引き出してみてください。(K)

Many of you had a chance to witness the children's great capacity for accomplishment during our autumn programs. Nowadays, we often hear that reduced outdoor play time is leaving children with less strength and endurance. However, our emphasis on outdoor play has paid off, as magkids love to walk.

Last autumn, the kids in maghouse Toritsudaigaku pre-school class voted in unison to visit Tokyo Tower and proceeded to climb to the very top. The children's curiosity and strength exceeded expectations, as many adults had wondered how well they could handle the challenge.

December has arrived. How about inviting your child to help out with cleaning or cooking to stimulate his or her motivation during the winter holiday. (K)

Maghouse's Column Novmber 2023

子供向けの英語教材にはなぜディズニーやセサミストリート、サンリオなどのキャラクターが多いのでしょうか?

子どもになじみがあるのはもちろんですが、それらが何語で話しているか、というのは実はあまり関係がないからなのです。画像や音などから子どもが入り込める話や歌というのは、子どもにとって同じ感情を共有しやすいのです。

特に登場するキャラクターが日本語と英語で同じ内容を話している教材は、意識せずに意味を理解して英語を覚えることができます。好奇心が豊かな幼児期にはいろいろなものに触れさせたいですね。(U)

Why are Disney, Sesame Street, Sanrio, and other such characters ubiquitous in English-language materials for children?

One reason is surely that children are so familiar with them, that the language which the characters speak is irrelevant. If children identify with a story or song through images or sounds, they can share the same feelings.

Especially for teaching materials, where characters say similar content in both Japanese or English, children understand and learn English naturally. maghouse strives expose to many stimuli during early childhood, a time when children are awash in curiosity. (U)



September 2023

食欲の秋ともなればマグキッズの"食欲"もピークで"食"にこだわる私たちにはうれしい限りです。食べることは5感(視覚、聴覚、触覚、嗅覚、味覚)すべてを刺激しますが、乳幼児期でのこの経験量は知能の発達に大きく影響します。また、食に関するお手伝いも野菜を育てたり、クッキング、コップに水を入れる、料理を皿に取るなどもり沢山です。極め付きはアトムクラス児でもこぼれた水をふき取るなど意欲的で、すべてが楽しい経験の積み重ねになっています。

こんな日常が彼らの自信や自立にどれほどつながっていることか。おうちでも"食べる"を大事に した楽しい時間をお願いいたします。(K)

Autumn tends to enhance our appetites, and magkids' appetites are at their peak, which is a great thing for those of us at maghouse, where we are particular about food.

Eating stimulates the five senses (sight, hearing, touch, smell, and taste), and these experiences significantly influence intellectual development during infancy. There are many ways kids can help when it comes to food prep, from growing vegetables to cooking, filling cups with water, and arranging cuisine on plates. Even Atom Class children are excited by something as basic as wiping up spilled water, making the whole process one fun experience after another.

Integrating such activities into the daily routine is indispensable for building self-confidence and independence. I encourage everyone to make "eating" an important and joyful time at home as well. (K)



日本語が確立する前の乳幼児期に英語に触れさせて良いものか、よく議論に上がりますが、私は大いに触れさせて欲しいと思っています。日本語を話す両親を持ち、日本語で教育を受ける環境にあるなら、日本語を母国語として身に着けていくことに障害はありません。

英語を学ぶことで日本語が身につかなくなるとしたら、それは英語の環境に子どもをどっぷりつからせた場合です。幼児期はことばの敏感期なのでまずは英語の音に触れ、絵本や歌で一緒に聞いた音を口に出してみてください。英語を聞きながらみんなで楽しい雰囲気を体験することが第一歩ではないかと思います。(U)

Debate revolves around whether small children should be exposed to English before their Japanese skills are solidified. I think substantial exposure is good. With Japanese spoken at home and in the educational system, the language should become a child's mother tongue without issue.

The only reason that learning English might prevent acquisition of Japanese is when the child is fully immersed in an English-speaking environment. Since children have a sensitive ear for language in early childhood, I recommend practicing the sounds from songs and picture books together. I believe that fun environment offering spoken English as a shared experience is the first step. (U)



maghouse's column August 2023

今年の夏ほど酷暑を感じることはありません。これを乗り切るには、バランスよい食事、 適度な運動、夜の十分な睡眠といった規則正しい生活でしょう。

ご承知のように、子どもには早寝早起きの10時間睡眠が不可欠で、寝ている間に昼と夜の 生活リズムを体内時計に刻み込み、成長ホルモンが身体のあらゆる組織細胞を癒して次の日の 元気を作り出すからです。

保護者の皆様も8時間の睡眠は不可欠とのこと。OECD20ヶ国の中で睡眠時間が最も短いの は日本というウレシくない報告もあるほどです。家族で睡眠をとって夏を乗り切ろう!(K)

This is the hottest summer I have ever experienced. The best way to beat the heat is an orderly lifestyle: well-balanced meals, appropriate exercise, and plenty of sleep at night.

"Early to bed, early to rise" -- a saying we all know well. Receiving 10 hours of vital sleep helps children's internal clock regulate night-day rhythm, allowing growth hormones to heal tissue cells and create energy for the next day.

Even we adults require 8 hours of sleep. Unfortunately, Japan reportedly has the shortest sleep time among the 20 OECD countries. Let's all do our best to get a good night's sleep. (K)

翻訳 木下マリアン





今、巷をにぎわしているChatGPT。このところ話題に上らない日はありません。職場で活用される例も増えてきているのではないでしょうか。大学の現場では生成AIをどのように利用していくべきかまだまだ議論が煮詰まっていません。

語学教育では事は益々深刻です。誰でも無料で利用できる精度の高い翻訳ソフトもあります。「一つの言語を他の言語に変換する」ことは労なくできる時代に語学を学ぶ過程や目的は昭和、平成の時代とはかなり変わってくるでしょう。

ご自分のお子さんには早期から語学を学ばせたい、とお考えの方も多いと思います。 AI利用という流れは今後も加速していくこの世の流れの中で語学とどうかかわっていく か、転換点にあることは間違いありません。語学とどう向き合うか、次回からそんなこ とを書いていきたいと思います。(U)

Everybody is talking about Chat GPT. Not a day goes by that it is not mentioned. Its workplace usage has doubtless increased, and universities continue to debate the role of generative AI.

Discussion is also heating up in the field of language education. Anyone can access quality translation software at no cost. Nowadays, we can painlessly translate from one language into another, indicating that the process and purpose of language study has changed drastically compared to the past century.

Many of you surely hope to expose your child to language education from an early age. How should we interact with language learning during this clear tipping point of accelerated AI usage across the globe? I hope to write more about dealing with languages in the next issue. (U)



5月末から6月にかけて保護者会が開かれます。マグハウスでは子どもたちの成長の様子をコドモンで、保育の様子をライブカメラでご覧いただけるので、保護者会は、お迎え時間が異なる保護者が一堂に会する初めての機会となるので、交流を第一に考えて開催しています。

保護者会では、子育てに不安な第1子の保護者に子育て経験豊かな保護者がアドバイスをするなど少しずつ場が和んでいくのを私たちはうれしく拝見しています。

乳幼児期の豊かな感性や知識の伸びしろを、保護者の皆様とご一緒に見守りサポートしたいと 思っています。 (K)

Parents' Association meetings are being held from late May into June. Although parents remain updated on children's development through CoDMON, and on nursery school life through our live camera, individual drop-off and pick-up schedules mean that parents on differing timetables rarely have a chance to meet and interact. These parent-teacher conferences focus on that opportunity.

We are delighted to see these conferences gradually become more relaxed as first-time parents harboring anxieties about childrearing seek advice from their more experienced peers.

We hope to oversee and support the growth of children's abundant emotions and knowledge during their earliest years, in partnership with their guardians. (K)



maghouse's Columun May 2023

こんにちは。今月からこのコラムを担当することになりました上原雅子です。現在は神田外語大学で大学生 に英語を教えておりますが、縁あって2022年よりマグハウスの第三者委員として運営委員会に参加させていた だいています。運営委員会では若いご両親の子育てのお話、マグハウスでのお子様方の様子などを興味深く 伺っています。

私にも娘と息子がおり、アメリカで子育てをしましたが2人ともすでに30代半ば。マグハウスのご両親と同 じ年頃になりました。今子育て中のご両親には私のころとは違った苦労がおありかと思います。

このコラムではお子さんの英語の学びについて、また他の国での子育ての考え方の違いなどについて書いて いけたらと思っています。皆様のご興味のあるテーマなど、マグハウスまでお寄せいただけましたら、参考に させていただきたく思います。どうぞよろしくお願い致します。(U)

Greetings! My name is Masako Uehara and it is my pleasure and privilege to author this column each month for the foreseeable future. At present, I teach English to students at Kanda University of International Studies. I have been fortunate to serve as a third-party participant in the maghouse steering committee since last year. During meetings. I have been very interested in hearing about young couples' childrearing experiences and the daily lives of magkids.

I have a daughter and a son whom I reared in the US, and who are now in their mid-thirties, the same age as many maghouse parents. However, many of the challenges you face today differ from those I experienced years ago.

In this column, I hope to address how children learn English and how ideas about childrearing differ from one country to another. Please communicate any areas of interest you have to the maghouse staff, and I will use that as reference for future column topics. Let's have a great year! (U)























maghouse's Columun March 2023

国際会議などで日本人が英語でスピーチするのは今や普通のことですが、ついこの間まで「スマイル、スリープ、サイレント」と内向きの日本人を揶揄されたものです。

マグハウスでは"英語教育"は行っていませんが子どもたちは英語が好きで、歌や日常生活でのワンポイント英語などは人気があります。

集団教育ではなく、一人一人の子どもの興味あるテーマを見つけて環境を用意すると誰もが集中して取組み始めます。このようなマグハウスの"子ども主体保育"で子どもたちは育ってきました。

卒園・進級後も子どもたちの好奇心がより一層広がっていくことを期待します。そして、彼らが自立した大人に成長していくことをこれからも見守っていきます。 (K)

It is now a matter of course for Japanese to make speeches at English international conferences, but it was not long ago that we earned ridicule as an inward-looking people that smiled, slept, and remained silent during such events.

Although maghouse does not offer formal English classes, magkids enjoy snippets of English through songs and daily activities.

Rather than offering group-based study, if each child's interest is noticed and nurtured with an encouraging environment, the child will naturally focus and grow. This child-centered care has always been the heart of maghouse's educational philosophy.

We look forward to seeing curiosity continue to expand within each child who graduates or advances to the next age group. And we will continue to follow their development as they mature and become independent adults. (K)
翻訳 太下マリアン

maghouse's Columun February 2023

底冷えの冬の公園も好奇心一杯の子どもたちにとって魅力的な場所。思いのままに走り回る、自然の不思議を観察する…夢中になる対象が尽きないからです。そんな毎日が心も体も満たし健やかな成長につながります。なのに、近年では公園での遊びも制約されるケースが増えているのは残念です。

やりたいことができない環境は公園だけではありません。家庭内での親のガミガミや過干渉、 知育偏重の傾向なども実は子どもの可能性を摘み取っているのです。

子どもたちが子どもらしく過ごせる"子ども主体"の生活環境について周囲の大人たちも真剣に考えたいですね。(K)

Even cold wintry parks are beguiling spots for children bursting with curiosity. They can run around to their hearts' content, observing nature and finding unending sources of fascination. Such days lead to mental and physical contentment as well as healthy growth. It is quite sad that children have been increasingly restricted from playing in parks in recent years.

Parks are not the only environments hampering children's activities. Parental nagging and helicoptering, along with an over-emphasis on intellectual education, often chip away at children's potential.

As adults, we should give serious thought to a child-centered living environment in which children can be children. (K)

翻訳 木下マリアン

maghouse's Columun 2023 January

マグハウスの新年のイベントは鏡開きと獅子舞で、獅子に扮して舞うのは獅子舞歴10年の保育者です。今年は17日に各園を回りますが伝統文化といっても小さな子どもには、頭をパクリの厄除けは怖くて大泣きの大合唱です。

昨今、保育園での虐待が報道され行政の保育課には虐待がらみの相談や問い合わせが多いとのことです。そんな状況で気になるのが日本の伝統文化である豆まきや獅子舞、なまはげなどにまで疑問が及んでしまわないかという懸念です。

幸いマグハウスではご心配をおかけするような報告はありませんが、保育者は子どもたちの尊厳をより配慮しながら、今年も子ども主体の保育を続けてまいります。(K)

New Year's events at maghouse include rice cake cutting and the lion dance. The "lion," a professional childcare worker who has been performing this dance for 10 years, will appear at each maghouse on the 17th. Though a traditional event, it still produces tears from small children who fear the lion who "bites off" heads to ward off evil.

After recent reports of abuse at childcare centers, local governments have received inquiries from the public. This situation raised concerns about the appropriateness of traditional events such as bean tossing, the lion dance, and namahage demons.

Fortunately, there has been no cause for concern at any maghouse location, but we will redouble our commitment to treat each child with dignity and to continue our tradition of child-centered care this year. (K)

翻訳 木下 マリアン



12月になると街はイルミネーションやウィンドディスプレーで華やかさを増しますが、今年は少し様子が違います。ロシアによるウクライナ(UKR)侵攻はUKRばかりでなく欧州全域、世界中に影を落としています。 UKRの子どもたちが極寒の冬を乗り切れるよう、途上国の子どもたちに十分なミルクや食料が行き渡るよう、年末はこんな思いが巡る季節です。

豊かに暮らす日本の子どもたちがその恵みに感謝する気持ちを育てるのも保育教育の役割ではないでしょうか。

Merry X'mas & Happy new year! (K)

In December, outdoor illumination and holiday window displays create sparkling seasonal festivity. This year, however, things feel a bit different. Russia's invasion has cast a shadow not only over Ukraine, but over Europe and the rest of us as well. This is the season when our thoughts go out to the children of Ukraine and developing countries, in hopes that the former survive the bitter winter and the latter receive sufficient milk and food.

Surely it is the role of childcare education in Japan to foster a sense of gratitude in children for the blessings they enjoy in this land of abundance.





子どもたちは絵本が大好き。好きな絵本を選んでは「読んでください」と持ってきます。 ご家庭でも就寝前の1冊は大事なコミュニケーションの時間ではないでしょうか。

ところで、絵本はページをめくって読むばかりではありません。内容が分かってくると子どもが次のページの場面を教えてくれたりします。大人も絵本の場面から「これ何?」「どうなるんだろう?」「こんな時はどうする?」など対話を広げることができます。

絵本は5W1Hで感覚や思考力、ことばを伸ばすなど多様な可能性を持っています。(K)

Children love picture books and adore bringing you their favorite ones to be read. At home, reading a picture book before bedtime creates an important opportunity for communication.

By the way, there is more to reading picture books than simply turning the pages. Once children know the story, they will relate what is about to happen on the next page. Adults can deepen the conversation by asking questions such as: What is this? What will happen next? What would you do in this situation?

Applying the Kipling method (5W1H) to picture book time expands potential in areas such as children's senses, cognition, and language development. (K)



ウクライナ危機に端を発したエネルギーや食糧の供給不足はジワジワと私たちの生活に影響を及ぼしています。さらに今年は次々と発生する大型台風が農作物に甚大な被害をもたらし、物価高騰に拍車をかけています。

仕事に、子育てにと奮闘する保護者の皆様も財布の中身が軽くなったと実感なさっているのでは。私共保育所も値上がりの影響を懸念していましたが、水道光熱費や食費への東京都の補助が早々に決まり保護者の皆様にご迷惑をおかけすることはありませんのでご安心ください。

まもなく保育参加が始まりますが、コロナで取りやめていた試食を復活しますので、 秋の食材を使ったランチやおやつをぜひお楽しみください。(K)

The energy and food supply shortages sparked by the crisis in Ukraine are insidiously impacting our lives. Moreover, the series of major typhoons experienced this year have caused extensive damage to crops, furthering soaring prices.

Parents coping with work and childrearing may be feeling that their pennies do not stretch as far these days. We were similarly concerned about price increases, but the Tokyo Metropolitan Government quickly stepped in with subsidies for utilities and food expenses, alleviating worries for our daycare families.

We will soon be initiating family/guardian participation, including "food tasting" which was cancelled during the pandemic. We hope that you will enjoy our lunches and snacks incorporating autumn ingredients. (K)

trety tt

maghouse's Columun 2022 September

夏が過ぎると子どもたちが大きくたくましくなっているといつも感じます。

ここ数年、コロナ禍で特に"食"に関する活動を大きく制限せざるを得ませんでしたがこの夏を機に、以前のような日常に戻しています。例えば、ピッチャーの水を自分で注ぎ隣のお友達に渡す、お替わりを自分で取る、テーブルセッティングなど・・・・・、運動、感覚、思考力、社会性が複合的に組み合わされた楽しい知的活動です。

9月からはもっともっと「子ども主体」の日常活動を取り戻し、心も身体も知力も、楽しく伸ばせるよう環境設定を準備していきます。(K)

As summer draws to a close, we always feel that children are growing and becoming ever stronger. While the pandemic has unavoidably restricted meals and other aspects of our lives these past few years, we seized the opportunity to return to a pre-pandemic lifestyle this summer. And we noted, as children poured water for themselves and then passed the pitcher to the neighboring child, fetched their own refills, and helped with table settings, that exercising, sensing, thinking, and socializing are complex and intertwined enjoyable intellectual activities.

We anticipate an even greater return to child-centered activities in September and are creating an environment conducive to expanding children's physical, mental, and intellectual growth. (K)



maghouse's Columun 2022 August



毎日のメニューは20年間のデータをもとに栄養バランスや量を計算して作成します。 猛暑の今は口当たりが良く食欲をそそるものを考えるものの、マグキッズの食欲は変わら ず旺盛です。

数日前のランチはサンドイッチ2種とビシソワーズにサラダ。子どもたちが何気に"ビシ ソワーズ"と言うのも時代でしょうか。もちろんこの日も「おかわりください」の声は絶 えませんでした。

さて、マグハウスならではの定番はピクルスに加えて季節のちらし寿司やビュッフェラ ンチなどですが"おいしさ"に加えて五感や自信を育めるなんて食は"究極の保育"ではない でしょうか。(K)

Our daily menus feature balanced nutrition and portions calculated from data spanning 20 years. Although extra consideration is required to find something appealing to serve in this intense heat, magkids' appetites are as voracious as ever.

A few days ago, we offered two types of sandwiches, vichyssoise soup, and salad. The children's nonchalant ability to say "vichyssoise" surely points to the changing generations. That day, as always, they were clamoring for seconds.

Typical maghouse lunches always feature our popular pickles, and range from seasonal chirashi-zushi to a buffet-style meal. Whatever the menu, food is surely our ultimate task in childrearing, as with each meal the children learn about taste and the five senses while gaining overall confidence. (K) 翻訳 木下 マリアン

























maghouse's Columun 2022 July

早い梅雨明けから猛暑が続き、待望の水遊びの始まりです。ちなみに、昨年度の江古田園卒園児が年間で一番楽しかった思い出はプール遊びとのことでした。 水遊び後のすきっ腹にはおいしいランチが待っています。今回、保育専門紙にマグキッズの大好きなポーク&ビーンズが紹介されました。また、保護者から様々なレシピのリクエストもいただき「食のマグハウス」は広く認知されたと喜んでいます。

これを機にさらにおいしいランチやおやつを研究します。酷暑の夏、マグハウスのカレーレシピなどで乗り切ってください! (K)

The early end to the rainy season followed by intense summer heat created the perfect conditions for our long-awaited water play! By the way, last year's Ekoda Nursery School graduates voted "playing in the pool" their favorite memory.

A delicious lunch always awaits the children as they build up a hearty appetite playing in the water. In fact, a recent childcare publication introduced maghouse's popular pork & beans recipe! We are also thrilled by the many recipe requests we receive from our parents and guardians and the growing reputation of "Mealtime maghouse."

This encourages us to develop even yummier lunches and snacks for the children. We hope to help everyone make it through the rest of the simmering summer with our maghouse curry recipe and more! (K)

maghouse's Columun 2022 June

子どもにとって両親や保育者など周囲の大人は、なりたい理想の大人のモデルなのです。大人のやっていることを何でも真似しようとする光景はほほえましいものの、気をつけたい落とし穴もあります。

つい怖い顔で怒鳴ったり、言い争ったり、何気にタメ語で話したりしていると子どもたちは「やっていいことなんだ」と判断し、真似をしてしまいます。

マグハウスでは、保育者が言葉遣いに気を付けたりいつも笑顔で向き合っているのは、理想の大人を演じ「見習って身に付けて欲しい」と願うからです。保護者の皆様は、我が子の自立した将来像を描かれていることでしょう。ついうっかりの言動にはくれぐれもご注意を。(K)

For children, peripheral adults such as parents and childcare providers are role models for the ideal adults they wish to become. While observing children copy adult behavior is heartwarming, there are some pitfalls to watch out for.

Children who witness adults yelling angrily, arguing, or using slang may judge that behavior to be appropriate and copy it.

At maghouse, we ask our caretakers to use language thoughtfully, to smile, and to fulfill the role of ideal adults allowing children to learn by example. All maghouse parents surely picture the independent adult we hope our children will grow up to become. Let us remember to be careful about what we say and do. (K)

maghouse's Columun 2022 May

離乳食を子どもの口に運ぶ保育者を見て、ある保護者が「"見守る保育"って、何も手を出さずに子どものなすがままに任せるのかと思ってました」と話されていました。

いえいえ、それは放置です。私たち保育者は子どもの行動を推察し、いまどんなサポートが必要かと判断し行動します。

"子ども主体・見守る"とは、子どもたちの好奇心ややりたい気持ちを叶えるために保育者が必要な環境を用意することです。その結果が彼らの「できた!」という自信に どんどんつながっていきます。これが私たちマグハウスの保育です。本年度もよろしくお願いいたします。(K)

Observing one of our childcare staff feed a child baby food, a parent commented that, "I mistakenly interpreted 'watchful childcare' to mean a hands-off policy."

Absolutely not. That would be neglect. At our nursery, we anticipate children's behavior, assess the support they need, and act accordingly.

"Child-centered care" means creating the necessary environment for children to pursue what drives their curiosity and motivation. That leads directly to children's exclamations of confidence ("I did it!") and defines our childcare at maghouse. We are looking forward to another year together with you. (K)

maghouse's Columun 2022 March

桜の開花予想が話題になってくると、マグハウスも卒園や進級、入園の時期を迎えます。 新入園児がマグハウスで楽しい毎日を送れますように、進級児はさらに自信が培われる 日々でありますように、卒園児にはこれからの出会いや出来事がハッピーであると同時に、 どんな時も自分を信じて乗り越えて欲しいと願っています。

子どもたちがマグハウスで過ごす時間は人生の最初のほんの一握りですが、充実の"マグタイム"であった、あることを切に願います。(K)

When we start talking about cherry blossoms, we know it's time for graduation, moving up a year, and new enrollment at maghouse.

We hope that newcomers will enjoy every day, that advancing magkids will see their confidence grow, and that graduating friends will have wonderful experiences and be prepared to take on the world.

Children spend just a fraction of their lives at maghouse, but we trust that their "magtime" was enriching.(K)

maghouse's Columun 2022 February

オミクロン株によりコロナ感染者の急増が止まりません。マグハウスでも3園で陽性者が確認されましたが、いまは収束に向かいホッとしています。

とはいうもののこれまで2年間、コロナは子どもたちの日常に大きく影響し、特に"食"では衛生上の理由からお手伝いや料理を自分で取る機会などが制限されました。また、保育者のマスクも笑顔が見えないとか、話が分かりにくいなどコミュニケーション不足が子どもたちの心理面にどう影響するかも懸念されています。

日常生活もイベントも早くフツウに戻れるよう祈るしかないのかなと思っています。(K)

The Omicron variant of COVID-19 is continuing to spread and the number of cases is rising sharply. Some magkids at three maghouses tested positive; however, we are relieved to report that we no longer have any cases.

Over the past two years, children have been affected by COVID-19, including at maghouse. For hygiene reasons, we restricted magkids from helping staff prepare food and helping themselves to food. Also, we are concerned about the difficulty staff have communicating while wearing masks. The fact that they cannot show their smiles and facial expressions may be affecting the children psychologically, and at times, magkids have difficulty in understanding what they are saying through their masks.

We can only hope that things will be back to "normal" as soon as possible, including the events and magkids' lives at maghouse. (K)

maghouse's Columun 2022 January

年の初めに我が子の将来に思いをはせるご家庭も多いかと思います。

マグハウスは子どもたちの自立を目標に"こども主体"保育を実践していますが、その手段となることば遣いには保育者も少なからず苦戦しています。

時代とともに言葉の乱れが指摘されますが、日本語の美しさは文化として残っていく、残さなければならないのではないでしょうか。マグハウスで過ごす期間は人生の大事なスタート期になるので保育者は正しい言葉遣いができるよう全園で取り組んでいます。

成長につれて言葉が一時乱れても乳幼児期における正しい日本語が記憶にあれば、将来社会人になって正しい言葉遣いを要求されても苦労することなくコミュニケーションが取れると考えるからです。(K)

At the beginning of the year, many of us think of the future of our children.

At maghouse, our goal is to let children be independent, and we are committed to child-centered day-care to ensure a happy future for our children. One of our efforts is to use correct expressions around children.

Misuse of language among young Japanese has been pointed out recently. The beauty of the Japanese language should be maintained as a culture. For magkids, time spent at maghouse is crucial to their development early in life, and not only at maghouse, but all over in Japan, staff at nursery schools are conscientious with their language and expressions in the presence of children.

We do this in hopes that, although magkids may at times use Japanese incorrectly as they grow and learn, they will remember correct Japanese and will not have any difficulty in communicating correctly when they are required to do so. (K)



12月になるとミカン絞りが始まります。マグキッズは半分に切ったミカンを絞り器でジュースにして小さなコップに移し、飲み干しています。ミカンの季節の「おいしい作業」はシーズンが終わるまで飽きることなく続きます。

ミカン絞りは手の動きと3本指を左右異なった動作で力加減を考えながら絞り出すので、1~2才児には難しい作業です。大人にとっては当たり前の行為も、子どもはどうしたら一滴も残らず絞り取れるか、あれやこれやと考えジュースにたどり着くのです。

ミカン絞りに限らず、幼児期に手先をどれだけ動かし使ったかは知能の発達に大きく関係します。子どもがやりたいことをやれる普通の環境が子どもを大きく育てるということになります。年末年始にはおうちでもお手伝いの機会をたくさん増やしてみてください。(K)

In December, we start making 100% natural mandarin orange juice. Each magkid squeezes a halved mandarin orange in a squeezer, pours the natural mandarin juice into a small cup, and drinks it. This "delicious work" continues until the mandarin season is over.

To use the manual squeezer, magkids must use their fingers, moving them sideways using the appropriate amount of strength. Thus, it is rather difficult work for one- and two-year-old. Although this is an easy task for grown-ups, children must think and try various ways so that they do not waste a single drop of juice.

Learning how to move and use their fingers to do things during early childhood is related to children's intellectual growth. If you let them do things they want to do, you are creating an environment in which children will think on their own. This holiday season will be a good opportunity for you to let them help you with chores. (K)



maghouse's Columun 2021 November

今年も9月から保護者参加が始まり、マグハウスでの子どもたちの自立した様子を知っていただく機会となっています。

集団生活を通して子どもたちは衣服の着脱ができたり、一人で食べられたり、片付けもできるし、協力し合って物事を進める様子に保護者の皆様は我が子の家庭とマグハウスでの行動のギャップに驚かれます。

集団生活の中で子どもは自らやってみたい、できるようになりたいと頑張ります。これは子どもたちの生まれ持った自立意識や「いい子」になりたいという願望なのです。ですから家に帰ったら一日頑張った気持ちを受けとめ、甘えるのもよしとしていただけますか。そんな親子関係が自信や情緒の安定につながり、自立への伸びしろとなっていきます。(K)

We restarted parents' day since last September to give parents the opportunity to see how their children spend their days at maghouse.

Many parents are startled to see the differences in their children's behavior between home and maghouse. Children can change clothes, eat, clean up on their own and cooperate with others as members of a group. Children try harder in group activities, as it is an instinctive desire to both be self-reliant and demonstrate good behavior.

Because they try hard at maghouse, they may want to be pampered at home. Would you mind allowing it a little at home? Feeling close to and understood by their parents helps children to develop emotional stability and improves self-confidence, which encourages them to be more independent. (K)

maghouse's Columun 2021 October

~新型コロナ対策アドバイス~

マグハウス江古田嘱託医の鈴木クリニック 鈴木次夫医師から新型コロナ対策のアドバイスをいただきました。

- 1. 子どもが発熱した場合は24時間様子をみる。症状は喉の痛み、咳、鼻水など
- 2. 家族が発熱した場合は濃厚接触者の可能性があるので、登園は控える
- 3. 感染対策は「免疫が落ちないようにする」。十分な睡眠とバランスのとれた食生活が重要
- 4. 子どもは大人から感染するケースが多い。保護者は家庭に持ち込まず規則正しい生活で免疫力を維持
- 5. 手洗いが最も有効な対策。石鹸がない場合は流水で良いが、水道の蛇口を洗ってから手を洗う
- 6. アルコールはしたたり落ちるくらいつける

今後の感染は低年齢化が予測され、親の意識が大きく左右するとのお話でした。保護者の皆様の継続的な対策と ご協力をよろしくお願いいたします。

-Important Advice for New Corona Viruses -

The following is advice given by Dr. Tsugio Suzuki the part-time physician at maghouse Ekoda:

- 1) If your child comes down with a fever, wait for 24 hours and watch for symptoms such as sore throat, coughs, and runny nose.
- 2) If a family member comes down with a fever, don't send your child to maghouse, as your child may have had exposure to COVID-19
- 3) Take preventive measures to strengthen your immunity such as getting plenty of sleep and eating balanced and nutritious meals.
- 4) In many cases, children get infected from adults. Therefore, parents and other family members should take care of themselves by maintaining well-regulated, healthy lifestyles and keeping their immune system strong.
- 5) Hand washing with soap is the most effective preventative measure against infection. You may also wash your hands under running water without soap, but be sure to clean off tap handles.
- 6) Use plenty of fluid when disinfecting your hands with alcohol-based disinfectants.

It is expected that new corona viruses will spread to younger age groups, so it is essential to be aware of preventive measures to protect your children.

maghouse's Columun 2021 September

コロナが長期にわたり猛威をふるう中で、仕事も子育ても頑張りすぎるとストレスが溜まっていきます。こんな時にイライラのホコ先は支配感情となって子どもへ向けられかねません。 子どもは、大人が一方的に指示したり管理できる従属物ではなく、一人の人間として向き合う存在です。

子どもたちが意欲的に楽しそうに毎日を過ごしているのは、やりたいことを自分で見つけ挑戦し、できたときの達成感の積み重ねがあるからです。結果としてそれが生きる力になっていきます。

子どもたちを見守り必要な時にだけ手を差し伸べ、ゆったりと成長を見守りませんか。(K)

The self-restraint period has been extended because the COVID-19 situation is worsening again. You may experience stress with your work and parenting, and your frustration may be directed toward your children, trying to control them.

Children are not your subordinates, whom you can order around what to do. You should treat them as individual

Children can spend every day and every moment enjoying doing things they find challenging. Their joy is to feel a sense of achievement, which keeps them going.

Why not stand back and watch them meet challenges and do things? You can help them only when they need your help. It is most rewarding to see them grow. (K)

maghouse's Columun 2021 August

子どもたちが言葉を覚えて使いこなす様子は何ともほほえましく、言葉の爆発期といわれる3才を過ぎると会話の内容も時として議論らしく?なります。

ところで、マグハウスでは保育者は正しくきれいなことば遣いを心掛けています。 メディアではコメンテーターの敬語は間違いが多いし、ソーシャルメディアでは言葉 の断片化が懸念されるなど日本語がちょっと怪しげな状況だからです。

子どもたちが、成長につれて言葉が一時期乱れたとしても乳幼児期に正しい言葉遣いをインプットしていれば感覚が取り戻せます。

ご家庭でも言葉には注意を払ってくださいね。まさか「きもい!」は無いですよね。 子どもにとって両親は真似できる理想の大人のモデルなのですから。(K)

It's heart-warming to watch children try out new expressions they have acquired. Once they pass the age of three, there is a so-called period of an explosion of words. Children can carry on a conversation or even a "discussion".

At maghouse, we keep in mind to use polite and correct expressions. We notice that many commentators on TVs use overly polite expressions that may not be always correct, while words used on social media seem to be fragmented.

As children grow up, they may misuse, jumble, or disarray words and expressions; however, they will retain their senses for correct expressions they acquired in their childhood.

Let's use polite and correct expressions at home. Children tend to copy what parents do and say. Let's be their role models! (K)

maghouse's Columun 2021 July

[スマホ脳 続き]

スマホや動画依存は大人ばかりか子どもの成長にも良い影響は与えません。乳幼児期では1日30分までが目安でしょう。先日の保護者会でも子どもたちの寝つきが良くないとの話が出ていました。夕食後から就寝までの間にスマホや動画は見せていませんか。

ご承知のように夜の睡眠中に成長ホルモンが心身を癒して昼の元気な活力を取り戻し、同時に体内時計も機能します。

睡眠不足は当然のことながら昼の集中力の低下、感情コントロールの抑制低下、自制心の低下などことごとく子どもの健全な成長を邪魔する存在となっているのです。

マグハウスの保育は子どもたちが好きな遊びや活動を選び集中してやってみることで自信を育み生きる力につなげることが大きな目的です。

スマホや動画により彼らの成長曲線に変化が生じないよう皆様のご理解を期待するばかりです。(K)

Smartphone brain (cont.)

Dependency on smartphone and videos may have negative effects on children's growth. For infants, smartphone use should be limited to 30 minutes a day. Some of you talked at Parents' Day about your children having difficulty falling asleep. Allowing children to use smartphones or watch videos after dinner before going to bed may be a cause.

Good sleep is extremely important as a growth hormone is secreted to repair damaged cells and it also synchronizes the biological clock.

Lack of sleep has many effects, such as decreased concentration and self-control, and an inability to control one's emotions, which hamper children's healthy growth.

Childcare at maghouse aims to encourage children to try what they want to do. By concentrating on their play or activities, they will build self-confidence and develop a zest for life.

All of us should realize that smartphones and videos will affect children's growth curves and we ask for your understanding and cooperation. (K)

maghouse's Columun 2021 June

スマホや動画などデジタル画像を長時間見ている子どもの脳の発達は遅れる可能性があると「スマホ脳」の著者アンデシュ・ハンセン氏は警告しています。アップル創業者のスティーブ・ジョブス氏などIT業界のトップたちも我が子のデジタル機器を使う時間を制限していたそうです。

簡単便利な動画サイトは便利な子守りグッズと考えてしまうケースも少なくないようですが、依存しすぎると成長に様々な弊害をもたらします。乳幼児期にはたくさん遊んだり活動し、五感を駆使して意欲ややる気、考える力が伸び、自分への信頼感・自立へつながることを再確認しましょう。(次号に続くK)

In the book "Smartphone Brain", Anders Hansen warns that watching videos and digital images on smartphones for many hours may have terrifying effects on children's brain development. Even Steve Jobs, the founder of Apple and leader of IT industry restricted the number of hours his child could spend on digital devices.

Some parents consider videos on smartphones as a convenient and easy-to-use babysitting tool. But, excessive use of smartphones may be harmful for the growth of children. Being physically active in early childhood and making full use of the five senses gives children the willingness and motivation to think on their own, and be confident and independent. Let's reaffirm the facts. (To be continued in the next issue) (K)

maghouse's Columun 2021 May

新緑の公園でマグキッズのそれぞれの好奇心は全開です。走るや描くのは もちろん、蝶やダンゴムシ、わけのわからない幼虫、ボウフラ、オタマジャク シ、トカゲも発見!鯉のぼりも見つけ歌いだすマグキッズも。

子どもは一人ひとり違うから、マグハウスは1クラス10名以下の小さな保育所にこだわり「子ども主体の保育」を実践しているのです。子どもたちのやってみたい気持ちを見守り理解し、環境を整えることで達成感や自信を生み、将来の自立への足がかりとなることを保育者は願っています。(K)

magkids brim over with curiosity when in parks with fresh greens. Some run around while others draw pictures. They like to find butterflies, roly polies, mysterious larvae, mosquito larvae, tadpoles, and even lizards. Some magkids burst into song when they find carp streamers.

We believe in a small child-care center with ten children or fewer in each class because each child has unique characteristics. To nurture the full potential of each child, to respect for each child's feelings, and to allow the children to lead the way, such a setting is essential. By keeping an eye on what the children want to explore, we create an environment so that enables them to build the self-confidence that blooms into independence. (K)

maghouse's Columun 2021 March

コロナウイルスに振り回された1年間でしたが、今は子どもたちの誰もが入園時 の心細さなどなかったように元気にたくましくマグハウスの生活を満喫しているよ うです。

秋の保育参加で保護者の皆さまは、家での様子とは異なる我が子の何でもできる自立した姿を目の当たりにして驚かれていました。

「子どものできる力」を信じ、成長発達に合わせた保育環境を用意すると子ども たちの伸びしろは大きく広がり、私たち保育者も驚かされました。

3月末で進級する、卒園する、退園するお友達それぞれですが、保護者の皆様は これからも子どものできる力を信じて口出しはじっと我慢して、伸びようとする力 を見守ってください。(K)

Because of COVID-19, it has been a difficult year, and many things about our lives have changed. Though uneasy and worried when children started at *maghouse* a year ago, they have gained confidence in themselves and are enjoying life here.

At Parents' Day in the fall, parents were surprised to see their children being able to do everything on their own, which may have been quite different from their daily lives at home.

Believing in the ability of children, we created a childcare environment to accommodate the development of each child, giving each one ample room for an amazing amount of growth.

At the end of March, some *magkids* will move up to advanced classes, some will graduate and some will leave *maghouse*. We ask all their parents to believe in children, be patient and watch them grow without too much meddling. (K) 翻訳 遠藤 安岐子

Translated by Akiko Endo

maghouse's Columun 2020 November

コロナの影響で"ニューノーマル"な生活が定着しつつありますが、保護者の皆様 にはどのような変化が起きているでしょうか。

子育てと仕事の多忙な毎日でもマグハウスの保護者は、お子さまとの時間をとても大事になさっていると感じます。今後の生活に変化が起きるとしても、お子様と過ごす濃密な5分間は引き続き確保してください。

歌ったり、本を読んだり、笑顔で間近で話をし合うわずかな時間でも子どもたちに安定と自信をもたらします。ある調査によると乳幼児期に親と一緒に好きな童謡などを歌う機会が多い子どもは、小学生になっても頑張れると感じる割合が多いそうですよ。(K)

Due to the corona virus, our lives have had to adjust to "the new normal." How are you coping with the changes in your life?

Although you are busy with your work and raising your children, I know that you cherish time with your children. No matter what may be happening in your life, try to spend five minutes with your children every day to maintain a close relationship with them. You can sing with them, read a book for them or simply talk and smile with them. By spending valuable time with them, even short periods, you can give your children a sense of safety and stability and build their self-confidence.

According to a study, children who had opportunities to sing their favorite songs with their parents in their infancy tend to try harder when they are in elementary school. (K)

maghouse's Columun 2020 October

マグハウスのランチはその6割が日本食で、その他4割のメニューは外国人ママの 伝授や海外で食べておいしかったものなどで構成しています。ハンバーグやカレー、パスタなど子どもたちが慣れ親しんでいる味は外しています。

それでもほとんどの子どもたちはよく食べ、お替わりも空っぽになるほどで、キッチンスタッフに「おいしいランチをありがとう」と伝える声もよく聞きます。 欧米では自然の恵みと生産者への感謝だけでなく、飢餓に苦しむ子どもたちが世界に はたくさんいることも伝えているそうです。

恵みの秋に、食についてそして「生きることは食べること」など、ちょっと考えてみませんか。(K)

We serve Japanese cuisine for lunch 60% of the time and the other 40% consists of non-Japanese recipes that mothers from foreign countries gave to our staff or dishes that our staff found tasty. We avoid serving hamburgers, curry dishes, pasta and other foods that the children are used to having at home.

Although the lunches served at maghouse may not be familiar to the children, they do enjoy and eat them well. They even return for seconds and often thank our kitchen staff for their delicious lunches. We understand that the children are taught to appreciate the blessings of nature and the works of producers as well to think about children around the world who are suffering from hunger.

Perhaps it is a very good time to think about food during this harvest season and think about the saying, "to live is to eat". (K)

翻訳 遠滕 女咬于 Translated by Akiko Endo

maghouse's Columun 2020 February

若者言葉は"やばく"て、ついていけませんが、大人たちも残念ながら敬語を含め言葉遣いは乱れています。

「おっしゃられる」「してもらっていいですか」や"ら抜き言葉"など間違い敬語の典型で、日常会話となると「そうじゃん」「むかつく」など定着してしまった感があります。

マグハウスでは正しくきれいな日本語で子どもたちと話すよう注意していますが、容易ではありません。

成長するにつれ言葉は乱れていくので、幼児期には周囲の大人が気を付けて子供と接するしかありません。ご家庭での何気ない会話もちょっと振り返ってみませんか。(K)

Some slang words or expressions young people use, such as "yabai" might sound strange to us. "Yabai" actually means "bad" or "risky", but young people use it for "great" or "good". Some grown-ups are not always correct in their use of Japanese honorific verbs.

(For example, the honorific expression for "iimasu" (=to say) should be "ossharareru".) Slangs such as "so jan" (which should be "so-desu") and "mukatsuku" (=fed-up) are often used in daily conversation.

At maghouse, we try to use proper language with children, but it is not always easy.

As children learn by copying their parents and grown-ups around them, it is recommended that you be careful with the language and expressions employed in their presence. (K)

maghouse's Columun 2019 July

通園に自転車は不可欠という保護者の方は少なくないでしょう。でも、自転車のマナーや ルールをしっかり守って走行している自信はありますか。

というのも先日、ある行政から無理無謀なママチャリが多く大事故につながりかねないという複数の苦情が住民から寄せられていると話がありました。万が一事故になれば、同乗の子どもが大きなケガを負うことは避けられません。

筆者も最近、大型ショッピングモールの前でママチャリとぶつかりそうになった時、自転車のママが「本当に邪魔なんだよ!」と言葉を吐いたのにはビックリ仰天。

2015年6月から自転車走行の規制と罰則が設けられスマホやイヤホン不可、歩行者優先、車線規制などが対象となりました。自転車利用の保護者の皆様も今一度、規範やルールを守って行動下さるようお願いいたします。(K)

Many of you need to use bicycles to come to maghouse. Let's make sure that you are aware of the traffic rules and road courtesy for bicycles.

We were notified by a government agency that they have received many complaints from residents that bike riders are reckless and dangerous, and that their bad manners and disregard for traffic rules may cause serious accidents and endanger the lives of children on the back seats.

The other day, a bicycle almost hit me in front of a large shopping mall and I was shocked to hear the rider, "You are in my way!"

In June 2015, new rules including penalties were put in place. They include the following: You must not use smart-phones and earphones, you must yield to pedestrians, and you must use proper lanes. Please review the rules and regulations for bicycles and obey them. (K)

maghouse's Columun 2018 September

マグハウスの保育目標の中で私たち保育者が関わることが出来ないのが夜の睡眠時間です。子どもたちは9時前にベッドに入っていますか?

「日が昇ったら起き暗くなったら寝る」という規則正しい生活リズムを10年重ねてやっと体内時計が出来上がり、その後の豊かな人生の土台となります。

夜の十分な睡眠は、メラトニンなど様々な成長ホルモンを分泌して傷ついた細胞を元気にするだけでなく筋肉や骨も作り出していきます。睡眠不足は体調不良や食欲不振、イライラ、ケガや 事故の引き金になり、常態化すると将来のキレる・こもるにもつながりかねません。

夜の睡眠の重要性について保護者の皆様の賢いご理解をよろしくお願いいたします。(K)

One of the most important things in nurturing children is to make sure they have sufficient sleep. Are your children in bed before 9 p.m.?

Regulating sleep-wake cycles for ten years makes it possible to establish healthy biological clock, which helps us to have enriched lives.

During sleep, growth hormone called melatonin are secreted to recover damaged cells and help make muscles and bones. Insufficient sleep in infancy and early childhood causes poor physical conditions, anorexia, and injuries and accidents as well as possible emotional problems such as being short-termpered.

We appreciate your understanding of the importance of sufficient sleep. (K)

maghouse's Columun 2018 February

家庭内での子どもの虐待(DV)のニュースが多いのは気になります。国も対策に本腰を入れ「子どものちょっとした変化も見逃さないで」と各方面へ呼びかけています。

幼児にとって母親は絶対的な存在で、どんな虐待を受けていても子どもは母親を追い求めます。それを承知の上でDVの親は溺愛したり、いたぶったり、無視したりと感情のままに子どもを支配します。このような体験をした子どもは心に傷を残し、成長しても社会に適合できずにさまざまな問題を引き起こしまう結果になっているようです。

幸い私たちの周りにこんな悲惨な状況はありません。でも時として"仕事が忙しくてイライラ気分"なんてありませんか?子どもが何か話しかけても返事をしなかったり、不機嫌な顔を見せてしまったり・・・、こんなちょっとしたことも子どもは敏感です。「ママお返事してくれない。怖い顔してる。大丈夫かな?愛してくれているかな?」と心を痛めているのです。

しなやかに仕事と育児の両立をこなし、"どちらも自分を成長させてくれる大事な財産だから!"とご承知のマグママには"釈迦に説法"ですが…。(K)

I am a little bit concerned about the news of an increasing amount of child abuse. Our government is trying to get people's attention to the issue, asking us not to overlook even a little change in children's behaviors.

For children, mothers are the absolute beings, and they keep on searching for mother's love even when they are abused. Abusive mothers are certainly aware of their children's feelings, and yet they act out of their own mood shifts, and keep on abusing and controlling their children. The abused children will never really recover from the experience, and sometimes they even become trouble-makers, not being able to adjust themselves within their society.

Fortunately, we do not see any evidence of abuse in the children around us; however, we must be extremely careful with ourselves. Have you experienced frustration due to busy lives? Do you always listen to your children? Have you ever shown your frustration or displeasure to your children? Children are highly sensitive. Just by you not responding to your children, they may feel, "Mother does not answer me. Is she angry at me? Is she OK? Does she still love me?"

I know mag Mothers are all marvelously wonderful, trying to keep up with your own jobs and the job of raising your children. Needless to say, I would not try to teach you how to suck eggs, as a Japanese saying goes.(K)

maghouse's Columun 2018 September

キレたり、こもったりする子どもが年々増加しているのは日本だけの現象で、その数は100万人を越えるそうで、その要因は幼少期の育ちの環境にあります。

外で思いっきり遊ばない、友だちとうまく遊べない、親のネガティブなガミガミ、知育偏重・・・など、大人の思い込みや自己満足の子育てが子どもたちを追い込んでいくのです。 子どもがやってみたい、やってみる、そしてできたときの満足感や達成感を大人が受け 止めることができないなら自尊感情(自信)が持てないまま育つのは当然でしょう。

子どもは生まれながらに自分を伸ばす力を持っています。だから、私たち周囲の大人は余計な口出しや手出しをガマンして子どもを見守っていくことが子どもの育ちに重要とマグハウスは考えます。(K)

The people who lose their temper easily or to become withdrawn have been increasing every year. Over 1 million people have this problem, which may be particular to japan. The cause is said to be environmental and the ways in which children are raised.

Children no longer play outdoors. They don't know how to get along with friends. Parents have selfishly perceived notions about what's right for children, such as placing insurmountable level of importance on education and scolding constantly without any positive results. All these factors drive parents as well as children into a corner.

Let children try to do what they want to do. It is only then that they can experience feelings of achievement and satisfaction and their self-confidence can be nurtured. Parents should acknowledge them and praise them.

Children have an inborn ability to develop their own faculties. Adults should not interfere with them by giving unnecessary instructions or helping hands. We need to watch them grow with patience. We at maghouse fervently believe in this way of raising children.(K)

maghouse's Columun 2017 March

大型家具店のレストラン。「さっさと食べなさい!」「そんなことしなくていいから!」 「やめなさい!落とすでしょ!」

お母さんは一口食べてはイライラしながら、二人の子どもに大声を出していました。お母さんも大変だけど、子どもだってやりたい気持ちや優しい気持ちをことごとく否定されるなんてつらいよね。

子どもは生まれたときから成長したい、目の前の大人のようになりたいという強い欲求を持っています。そんな気持ちをしっかり受け止めて、周囲の大人は彼らを信じ行動を見守り「幸福な大人」への道のりを支援していきましょう。

マグを離れるお友だちも進級するお友だちも、自信を持っていろんなことに挑戦していいんだよ。(K)

The other day, I was at a restaurant in a large furniture store and saw a mother who was very irritated. As she ate a bite, she yelled at her two children, "Hurry up and eat!" "Don't do it!" "Stop! You will drop them!"

I know it's hard work for mothers to raise their children and disciplining them is one of their jobs, but children have feelings, too. Being denied the assumption of their good intentions or warm feelings must be painful.

All children have a desire to grow up and to be like the adults they are close to. We must accept them as they are, believe in them, watch them, and support them so that they can follow the road to happiness.

I would like to encourage all children to be confident and say, "It's OK to challenge." (K)

maghouse's Columun 2017 February

もう30年以上も前、世の中が便利になり子どもたちが手先を使うことが減って不器用になってきているというレポートが出ました。これに対し便利なんだから不器用だっていいのではとの反論が出ました。

このとき、ある著名な女性教育者が「子どもの知能は手を使うことでより高くなる。手先や指を使い様々なことを集中してやった体験が少ないと、自分に自信が持てず、素直にもなれず積極性にも欠ける人間になる」とデータを示し、反論を説き伏せたそうです。

0-3歳の子どもたちが得る知識は、大人がその後の60年間で一生懸命努力して獲得する量に匹敵するそうです。もっと便利になった今、子どもたちが手先を使う機会はさらに減っています。であればなおさら私たち周囲の大人はもっと注意深く子どもの気持ちをキャッチし、手先や指を使わせてあげましょう。こんな毎日の繰返しが自ずと知識や知能アップにつながり自信を深めます。子どもたちの幸福な将来は、大人の思い込みのお受験対策より、普通の生活の中にあります。(K)

More than 30 years ago, studies reported that children became less skillful with hands as the world had become quite convenient and people had less opportunity to use their hands. Some argued that there was nothing wrong with being less skillful.

A well-known female educator presented a counter-argument with persuasive data, saying that using hands enhances the intellectual development of children. By concentrating on doing things with hands and fingers, they develop confidence. Without enough experience, they may grow up to be less honest and positive.

They say that the knowledge children gain in the years from birth to age 3 is equivalent to what we gain in the subsequent 60 years with utmost effort. Since things are more convenient nowadays, children have far fewer opportunities to use their hands. We have to pay close attention to their feelings and let them use their hands even more. Our efforts and daily routines contribute to children's intellectual development and increase their knowledge. Children's futures and happiness depend on their daily normal lives, rather than on special preparations for entrance examinations, which is our perceived notion. (K)

maghouse's Columun 2015 September

歌を唄ったり絵本を読んだり、親と一緒に過ごす時間はわずかでも、その安堵感は心と脳の成長に大きく影響します。

とはいえ、現代のママは育児・家事・仕事で忙しく余裕もなくストレスも溜まりがち。ちょっとしたことでイライラが募り感情的に怒ってしまいがちです。

大人の身勝手で感情的な怒りは、子どもへの支配や権力行使といわれます。この世に生を受けた子どもたちは、本能的に前向きな意欲や好奇心を持ちながら成長していきます。その行動を理解し、勇気付ける役回りをしたほうが自立を助け、他者へのやさしさも育ち、ストレスも減るのでは…?

気持ちよい秋のシーズン、お子さまとのほんのわずかな時間を大切にお過ごしください。(K)

Singing with children or reading books to them is a way to spend precious time together. Even if only for a short while, it gives them a sense of relief, safety and affection, and affects the growth of their minds and brains.

Mothers these days are quite busy nurturing children, doing chores around the house and working at their jobs, all of which may be stressful. We tend to become emotional due to frustration and may scold children for trivial things at times.

Anger arising from selfish behavior in adults is considered a sign of control and an attempt to exert authority over children. Children born to this world have instincts for positive willingness and curiosity. Understanding their behavior and encouraging them will help them to be independent and to grow up to be a considerate people. Would you agree that this practice may actually help to reduce everyday stress for mothers?

Pleasant days are ahead in the fall. Please cherish this time to be with your children. (K)