A Message from the Head of Department:

As our students are proceeding along the school years, they are continuously involved in a programme, which is activity-based with student participation of paramount importance. Our programme ensures that by learning English as well as learning through English, an awareness and appreciation of the richness of the language and literature are developed in the learners.

The Curriculum Group (B. Gökçen - HoD, N. Uysal - Coord.6-8, and S. Üstün - Coord. K-5) has been engaged in a development programme, which aims to enrich our English Curriculum in consultation with Ms. Dilek Tokay (an academic from Sabancı University). The group has been following a schedule for ongoing curriculum review and update. In Yüzyıl İşıl Primary School each year a number of subject areas enter the review process to ensure that they are kept current, relevant, and age-appropriate. This year the Writing, Reading, Listening & Speaking, and Grammar syllabi have been focused on with objectives, strategies, and implementation guidelines. All teachers are provided with internal and external Professional Development sessions to have access to new skills development methodologies upon need. In line with these efforts, students’ ongoing academic achievement is elevated in accordance with the new activities on the current curriculum.

As a department, we strive for success and always keep in mind that ‘Success is not a coincidence!’

Warm Regards,

Berrin Gökçen
HoD English K-8

15. 7. 2008

Dear All,

In the last Newsletter I gave you information about the Curriculum Development Programme our department has been involved in with the leadership of Ms. Dilek Tokay from Sabancı University.

The Curriculum Group has now finalized the curriculum review and update for the academic year 2008-2009 after evaluating the “mid-semester curriculum feedback” from our teachers through the questionnaires we had prepared. The newly designed Literacy (Reading & Writing) and Language Study (Topic, Grammar, Listening & Speaking) syllabi have been published to be implemented in the coming academic year after getting our teachers’ feedback and overall view through “analysis questionnaires” that have been already forwarded to them. The reason for the sharing of this meticulous work is the need for the harmonious orchestration of interaction, which is an inseparable part of professional development.

Our updated curriculum ensures that the academic needs of our students are fulfilled effectively and successfully with a thorough understanding of the rationale behind the primary materials, methodologies, and pedagogy.

As Head of Department, I feel proud to announce that we are definitely on the right track with our new English programme. Grateful to Tokay for her invaluable contributions, we are looking forward to the next academic year to see the outcomes of a long year of industrious work!

Warm Regards,

Berrin Gökçen
HoD English K-8