

Dear Families,

November 11, 2010

Over the last year or so you may have periodically received notices containing information regarding the anagram RTI, which stands for Response to Intervention, with a brief bit of information as to what RTI is or refers to. This year Children Unlimited also placed information about RTI in the Parent Hand Book that went home at the beginning of the year. The information begins on page eleven, section **S.** and continues through section **W.**

As progress reports are coming out we thought we would give families a reminder of what Response to Intervention is, it's purpose, and benefits and how you can use RTI in every day life to help make things more predictable, fun, and safe across all environments.

Children Unlimited partnered with the SAU 9 NH Responds Leadership Team, which is committed to the guiding principle that success in gaining social-emotional and academic skills for all children is dependent on the creation of responsive environments that nurture and enhance the developmental needs of the *whole* child. This means we support and address behavioral and academic needs of the child simultaneously. RTI is defined as the practice of providing high quality, evidenced based, differentiated academic instruction, and behavioral supports. Periodic assessments are used to identify children in need of additional support in the areas of early literacy and social emotional development. We have a collaborative team that processes that data and uses a team approach to improve academic and social emotional supports for all students.

One of the first things we did as a team for RTI was created some basic school rules and a school rules song. The school rules song is practiced at least once a week during song circle and the kids really love it. The school rules are posted in the class room and gone over on a regular basis. If a child is having a difficult day that child may be asked to look at and recite the rules with a teacher. There are rules placed in each play area of the room to help remind children how to play safely, be kind to their friends, and safe with toys, and with their feet. Each board has pictures and words and is brightly colored and they are consistent through each room in the building so regardless of which room the child is playing in they recognize the rules. Pictures and words are used because we know that pictures are the beginning of literacy and we point to the words as we read the rules and show the pictures and how they relate to the words.

I hope this helpful in giving some insight into what RTI is. We want to you to be involved and are looking for increased two way communication, so if you have questions regarding RTI or things that are happening in your child's classroom please feel free to contact us and we will get back to as soon as you can.

Sincerely,
Naomi Burnell, SLPA