

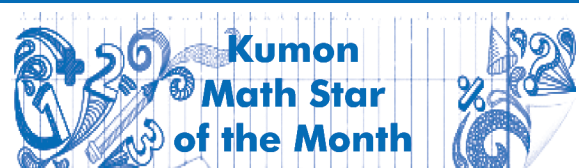
KUMON® connections

Monthly Newsletter



SCHEDULING KUMON

As a parent, we have numerous activities to keep track of. We have to juggle schedules for: work, school, swim lessons, sports practice, music lessons, and many other activities. We certainly can't forget... KUMON. It is important that you schedule time for your child to complete their Kumon homework every day. It is also very important that students arrive to Kumon and their scheduled time. We established a student schedule to avoid overcrowding and allow us adequate time to address the needs of all students. This keeps our Kumon Center running smoothly each and every night. If you need to change your child's scheduled time, please see Mrs. Rita at the front desk. We will work with you to find a class time that works best for everyone.



Jordan Kao

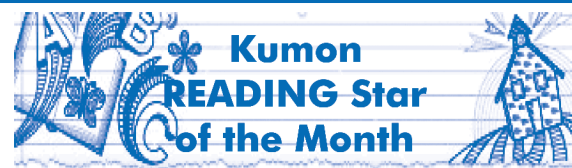
Our most recent math star here at Bloomington is Jordan Kao. The daughter of Joe and Kim Kao, twelve-year-old Jordan attends Chiddix Junior High School where she is currently in the seventh grade.

Jordan has many interests, and manages to keep quite busy. She enjoys playing softball and volleyball; she loves to read manga books and is active in her school's Mangarific Club. Jordan enjoys watching Zoey 101, Adventure Time, and Steven Universe on television. Her favorite foods include sushi and macaroni and cheese.

More than almost anything else, Jordan loves music. She enjoys listening to Iggy Azalea and Five Seconds of Summer. Art and orchestra are her two favorite school subjects; Jordan plays a bass in the school orchestra. One of her dreams for the future is to become a musician.

When asked about how Kumon has helped her in school, Jordan replies, "I always had a bad grade in math until a friend told me about Kumon. Ever since then, I have been attending Kumon and doing great in school." She hopes to reach the highest level in the Kumon math program by the end of her eighth grade year.

Jordan also dreams of becoming a veterinarian when she grows up, and she hopes someday to travel the world. We wish you the very best as you continue to work hard to achieve your worthy goals, Jordan! We know that you can accomplish great things!



Ayushi Shah

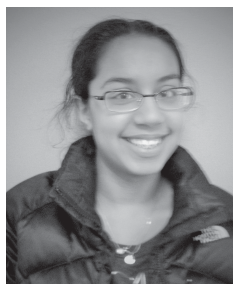
Congratulations to Ayushi Shah, our current Kumon Reading Star! Thirteen-year-old Ayushi, daughter of Reshma and Samir Shah, is an eighth grader at Evans Junior High School. Ayushi enjoys tennis and pop music. She lists the Percy Jackson series as some of her favorite reading material. Sushi is her favorite food

It is no surprise that reading is Ayushi's favorite subject in school, since she recently completed the entire Kumon reading program successfully. That is an amazing accomplishment!

Ayushi contends that her Kumon studies have helped her with her schoolwork. "Kumon helps me better understand the school material," Ayushi says.

Ayushi is also working her way through the Kumon math program. Her goal is to complete the math program within the next two years.

The staff members at Kumon are proud of what Ayushi has accomplished so far, and we know that she will easily attain anything she puts her mind to.



KUMON® connections

MEET THE STAFF Katie Montalbano



One of our newest staff members here at Bloomington Kumon is Katie Montalbano, who is currently a senior at Illinois State University. She hopes to become an elementary school social worker after graduation. Katie is a member of the Epsilon Sigma Alpha service sorority at ISU; the group's motto is "Students today, leaders forever!" Katie loves watching those ISU Redbirds. She enjoys reading Dr. Seuss books and listening to country music. Her favorite place to eat is the Olive Garden Italian

Restaurant.

When asked about working at Kumon, Katie states that she enjoys the friendly and helpful staff and co-workers, as well as the funny and smart students. She especially likes how the students are allowed to progress at their own pace and level rather than by age group. "I love Kumon!" Katie emphatically states.

We here at Kumon are so glad that Katie has joined our staff as an early learner assistant, and we wish her the best in all of her future endeavors.

SHILO'S CORNER

Notes from the Center Director

Fostering Perseverance and Motivation in Your Child

"It's not that I'm so smart, it's just that I stay with problems longer." – Albert Einstein

Rather than intelligence or teaching, Einstein attributed much of his success to persistence and persevering through challenges. A word for this is grit, which is defined as, "a perseverance and passion for long-term goals" by the Duckworth Lab at the University of Pennsylvania. This mindset is a cornerstone of what the Kumon Program aims to foster in your child. While we can all agree there is a strong relationship between intelligence and success, what Einstein is referring to and what research has shown is that grit is actually a bigger predictor of success when compared to intelligence. How can we develop perseverance in our children?

The Kumon Program works best when the Instructor and parent share the same philosophy and goals. We can foster perseverance and create motivation in our children by developing the right learning attitude and praising children when they achieve our expectations at home and in the Kumon Center.

But we can do more to cultivate grit. Encouragement should be given regardless of a child's result, and should focus on the effort and the progress.

"Look at how well you are doing with addition! A few months ago adding up to +9 wasn't easy, but now you can add double digits in your head! I'm so impressed with how far you have come."

Encouragement entails using descriptive words.

"I know subtracting fractions feels challenging right now but I don't want you to give up. I know you can do it! Do you remember a few months ago when you thought long division was too difficult? Now, it feels easy for you, right? It must feel good to know you worked so hard and now you are a pro at it! Fractions are the same thing. I'm really proud of you because I know you are going to become really good at fractions too!"

People of all ages appreciate and respond to encouragement that is both sincere and descriptive in nature. Use encouragement to motivate your child and help them develop the perseverance to achieve more in Kumon.

"Instruction does much, but encouragement everything."
J. W. Goethe