



Aina Haina Elementary School

Home School Partnership Tip

October 2017

Regardless of a child's age, please continue to develop a regular communication routine with your child about their day in school. Older children may not say or admit that they want regular opportunities to communicate, but developmentally they both crave and need communication routines with their parents, guardians or other adults they trust and have connections with.

- Try to be specific with the context/setting you are curious about.
- Use open ended questions with a “questioning” verb.
- Consider completing the communication loop by letting your child's teachers know what your child was excited about or what brought joy to your child.
- Also let teachers or counselors know about any concerns/frustrations/anxieties your child may have expressed as well.
- Embrace the technology your kids are comfortable with to have dialogue and keep communication lines open. E.g. texting, IM's, etc.

Consider questions like:

- **Describe the best/most challenging part of your day today.**
- **How was your day with your friends/teacher at recess in class etc.?**
- **Explain the most interesting thing you learned or talked about today in Math/Science/Social Studies/Assembly, etc.**
- **What might be some examples you saw or experienced today of people being..... “insert IB Learner Profile or 3B's here” e.g. courageous, principled, open-minded, balanced, kind, safe, responsible.**

This tip is brought to you by Vice Principal Gayer