

KELSO'S CHOICE

Dear Parents:

Conflict or disagreement is normal and often happens when children get together. However, hurtful words or physical attack are unacceptable ways to deal with conflict. Our goal is to teach students several positive ways to deal with these difficult situations. We've been using a system called Kelso's Choice to empower children to solve their own small problems.

Summer presents a new set of situations and challenges for children. Of course it's wonderful, and they happily look forward to it, but the change in their routines can sometimes cause conflict as well. Whether it's traveling to see family and having to share and take turns with cousins and distant relatives, or spending much more time with siblings, getting bored, or coping with friends going away on vacation, there are new challenges to face.

That's why we wanted to send this quick reminder of the tools we use in school, and invite you to adopt this language as you help your child navigate summer vacation so everyone can have a whole lot of fun!

When kids face minor conflict in school, we invite them to try at least two of the following ideas:

1. Go to another game or activity.
2. Respectfully talk it over and listen to each other.
3. Walk away from the problem.
4. Ignore the problem behavior.
5. Tell the person to stop the problem behavior.
6. Apologize.
7. Make a deal or compromise.
8. Wait to cool off.
9. Share and take turns.

Feel free to reach out to me with any questions about how you can use these tools to help your child have a fun-filled and peaceful summer.

Sincerely,