

Auf die Kleinen kommt es an – mehr Zeit für Bildung!

Dear parents,

every day, your child spends several hours in the kindergarten. This time is important for your child as it grants him/her a good opportunity to meet other children, to play and learn. The success of these activities requires a sufficient number of kindergarten teachers to support and guide your child. The respective ratio formula for kindergarten staff in Berlin falls short of this number.

Therefore, the Berliner Kitabündnis (Berlin Kindergarten Alliance) organizes the "Berliner Kitatage" (Berlin Kindergarten Days) from September 7th to 22nd, 2009, and cordially invites you to take part in this event. Please get more detailed information about the programme in your child's kindergarten or via the internet address www.berliner-kitabuendnis.de/initiativen/kitatage.

We want to draw your particular attention to the final function which will be held on September 22nd, 2009:

A star march and rally are meant to remind the politicians of the importance of kindergartens as places of education for our children as well as of the urgent necessity to improve the general situation in this sector.

The star march shall start at 03:30 p.m. from four central locations in Berlin (Alexanderplatz/World Clock, Maerkisches Museum subway station, Bebel Place and Monbijou Place), heading for the place of the rally in front of the Red Town Hall. At 03:45 p.m., the ATZE Childrens' Musical Theatre will present a music programme there. At 04:15 p.m., a short rally shall take place, followed at 05:00 p.m. by songs performed by the ATZE Children's Musical Theatre.

Here, we are in need of your particular support:

In the afternoon, parents, kindergarten teachers and children shall meet to attend the rally together. The Kitabündnis calls to keep kindergartens closed this afternoon - except of emergency care - in order to enable the largest number possible of kindergarten teachers to attend the event. Please take part in the rally or support other parents and kindergarten teachers to make possible their participation. Your kindergarten's teachers are ready to inform you about the exact timing, meeting places and support possibilities (e. g. by caring for other children in your child's kindergarten).

Why is your participation so important?

Since 2005, the ambitious Berlin Educational Programme (BBP) for kindergartens has been the legal basis and general guide for the activities of all kindergartens in the city. The implementation of this programme was started although the number of Berlin kindergartens' staff does not meet the requirements set out in the aforementioned programme. Again and again, it was promised to increase kindergarten staff. However, the Senate's present budget draft does not provide for the funding required! During the autumn of this year, the House of Representatives will have to decide whether kindergartens will get support or will be left in the lurch for the next two years. It will be impossible to further implement the Educational Programme without additional staff.

This is to be made clear by the Berliner Kitatage– your support is very important!

Yours sincerely

Berliner Kitabündnis