

March 2019 Newsletter



I'm not sure if we are in like a lion out like a lamb but that's what I'm hoping for. Big thanks to everyone who took the time to stay and have tea and treats with us on Valentine's Day! It's always nice to be able to connect.

For all of the families with children headed to Kindergarten in the fall, hopefully you were able to register with the school of your choice. If anyone is needing a hand with this process please don't hesitate to ask.

I'm curious if anyone has plans to be away over the Spring Break (last 2 weeks of March) or if anyone knows of summer plans that involve your child not attending for a period of time. I know it is early for the summer plans but if you do know and could let me know that would be much appreciated.

Living in a small community, it is easy for many children to have identical articles of clothing due to limited shopping options. Labelling really helps avoid any confusion in this area. If you haven't already done so, check out the Mabel's Labels website by going to campaigns.mabelslabels.com. These labels are an easy way to ensure everyone know whose things are whose. Don't forget to choose Kootenay Kids as your school of choice to support our fundraising efforts.

Sam Weipning will be going on a maternity leave as of March 8th. We wish her well and can't wait to meet her new joy! If all goes according to plan, Ray-Ann should be back the week of March 18 which is very exciting!

I think that's all for now. Enjoy the fresh snow!



Infant Toddler News

Hopefully we are getting close to the end of the long winter we have been having! Although, the children have been enjoying playing in the fresh snow falls. They have been doing lots of shoveling, transferring, and building. We have recently started snow spraying with spray bottles and squeeze bottles to extend their interest in snow play. The children have also been very interested in taking care of dolls, feeding them, holding them and putting them to bed. The children got to experience bathing the babies in water with wash clothes and sponges. They are taking great care of the babies which builds on empathy and compassion. Caring for dolls also teaches responsibility and encourages creativity and imaginative play. We have changed the room into more of a house keeping theme with a kitchen play area set up with fruit and vegetables and various kitchen tools. We have already noticed the children have been playing grocery shopping with the materials so we added in some shopping baskets to support this interest. The children continue to learn self-help skills with the bins at eye level for children to put used face cloths into the laundry bin and garbage in the garbage bin. The children are also learning about composting with our new compost bin that has recently been added. The children have been very interested in daily gatherings where they take a pillow to sit on in a circle and singing along to felt stories and finger play songs. This has become a favourite. We have been creating new stories and song to keep up with this daily request to have a gathering together. We would love to learn some new songs and stories if there are any favourites you would like to share with us.



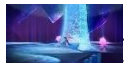
3-5 and Multi-age Program News

The snow and cold weather continue to be an invitation for lots of different kinds of play. The children have been having lots of fun **and** they're strengthening those big muscles as they climb up then slide down the hill. *Taking risks is a valuable part of exploring their environment. They also enjoyed mixing colours and shaving foam to the snow to make interesting concoctions.

**Please feel free to check out the article on risky play posted in the 3-5 cubby room.*



The children have created beautiful ice hearts using cranberries and pine twigs. Hanging from the trees, they glistened in the sun. It was interesting seeing how the shapes changed as they melted and then refroze.



Indoors, our dramatic play area has transformed into an ice castle with magical treasures and all things slivery and shiny. The children had been playing a lot of games involving 'ice power' and 'frozen' so the staff have followed that interest.....

The new climbing wall within our Sensory Room has been an instant hit!

At Gatherings we have been discussing how we can help keep our bodies and our feelings safe - for ourselves and our peers - we are talking about gentle hands, using safe voices, friendly/not friendly words.

Multi-Age Program

The children have been experimenting with colours in the snow using water colours, brushes and spray bottles. They also have been climbing up then sliding down the hill. An art wall is being worked on and you are very welcome to come and view your child's creations.

Reminders and Requests: Please try to empty cubbies at the end of the day. Spare clothing etc can be stored in your child' bin.

We would be grateful for anything shiny/glittery to add to our dramatic play corner.

Thank you for labelling your child's items - it is so helpful. As the weather will begin to change, please try to ensure your child has some spare mittens and a change of clothes.

With the plethora of germs around, runny noses are a frequent occurrence. At daycare we are teaching and encouraging the children to use a hanky and practice blowing and wiping their noses independently. Thorough handwashing is also encouraged. If you would like to help your children practice at home also, that would be great.

