**February 2016**

**Newsletter**



Welcome to kindergarten!

Important Info

**Information and Points to Remember**

Principal: Daniella Perrott

Vice-Principal: Christina Brulotte, Jennifer Stegeman

Office Manager: Debbie Taylor

Kindergarten Teacher: Natalie Winter

ECE Teacher: Lakhwinder Saini

School Phone Number: 905-843-3281

School Fax Number: 905–843–3285

**School Begins at 8:25 am and**

**dismissal is at 2:50 pm**

**Attendance**

We have a Safe Arrival Program at our school. Please inform the school by calling before the school day begins, if you know your child will be absent.

**Entry**

As students arrive at school they may wait in the Kindergarten Area after 8:15 am when supervision starts. When the bell rings, the children will line up one behind the other and enter the school when we meet them at the door. Parents are asked to say their good-byes outside the fence since the students need to develop independence early in the school year.

**Late Arrival**

If your child is late, please take him/her to the office.

**Pick-Ups / Dismissal**

All students will be dismissed from the Kindergarten Area. It is important that your child knows who will be picking him/her up at dismissal. **Please inform us if your child will be picked up by someone new.**

**Change of Information**

Please notify us and the office of any change of information pertaining to your child as this is a safety issue (baby-siting arrangements, new phone numbers, person picking up your child).

Kindergarten news!

# It seems like Jack Frost continues to be nipping at our noses and one could only hope that the warm hearts of Valentine’s Day will begin to melt the snow! Valentine’s Day is soon approaching. It is a time when the children learn about the importance of showing others how they care. If possible, we encourage children to make Valentine’s cards for their classmates. Many of the children may wish to bring in Valentines, from home, for their classmates. Please remember that if you wish to do so, we are encouraging you to bring in non-food items only. We do have some children who are allergic to different foods and this rule of thumb makes it safe for everyone. Please be aware that we have 26 children in our class.

reminders

Report Card Envelopes

Report cards went home on Friday, January 29. Thank-you to those who have signed and returned their envelope. If you have not already done so, please return your child’s signed, empty envelope so that we can reuse it in June when the next set of reports go home. Thank-you for helping us to be environmentally friendly!

winter attire & indoor shoes

**Winter Attire**

The winter season has definitely arrived, so please remember to dress your child for the weather. We play outside twice daily, so an extra pair of mittens might be useful in the event that your child’s mittens get wet during the first outdoor time. Also, having an extra pair of socks in their cubby is also helpful in the event that their socks get wet. Further, we really appreciate all the parents that have sent in an extra set of clothing for their child. If your child’s clothing needs to be replaced with winter clothing, please remember to do so. We kindly ask parents to provide their child with the following clothing.

* Winter hat
* Gloves
* Neck warmer/scarf
* Winter boots
* Snow pants
* Extra change of socks (just in case)

**Indoor Shoes**

Each child needs a pair of running shoes to be left at school to wear in the classroom and in the gym. As tying laces is often difficult for Kindergarten children to do quickly and effectively, a **Velcro or slip-on** **style** is best and gives us more time for gym. Names should be clearly **labeled** on each shoe.

INDEPENDENCE

Part of our kindergarten focus is on independence. Does your child do the following at home:

* Dress themselves each day, including zippers and buttons
* Hang up their outdoor clothes and empty their backpack
* Put their boots or shoes away
* Identify their own outdoor clothing
* Have simple chores that he/she helps with (i.e., setting the table, helping sort laundry, tidying up their own toys when finished)

dressing for winter

Please help your child learn the order of dressing into their winter clothing (snow pants first, then coat, hat, scarf, boots and mittens last). Young children are so proud of their efforts and accomplishments, especially when they receive praise and encouragement. By knowing what order to put on their outdoor clothing, they are geared for success and can avoid struggles such as trying to pull their snow pants on over their boots or trying to do up their zipper with mittens on.

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 Toys

We understand children are very fond of the toys they have at home and are interested in sharing them with their friends. In order to avoid these special treasures from getting lost or broken, we ask that all toys be kept at home. Should your child be particularly eager to share their enthusiasm about a toy they have at home, they could draw or write about that special item and bring in this picture to discuss with their friends instead. Please note, the children are not permitted to play games relating to guns or weapons at school and therefore will not be able to share images of these types of items when sharing with their friends. Thank you for your cooperation with this.

extra change of clothing



**Clothing**

Some activities are messy! It is important for your child to be dressed in **comfortable play clothes** and running shoes. Keep dressy clothes for special occasions. As the cooler weather approaches, your child should wear proper clothing to keep warm during outdoor play times. We will be going outside EVERYDAY, usually twice in a day for up to an hour. We will be out when it is lightly raining as well. Students should come prepared and wear layers. All outdoor clothing needs to be labeled. Also a **change of clothes should be left at school** in case a mishap occurs. This could include: a t-shirt, a pair of pants, underwear and socks. Please place in a labeled bag and then put into a small child’s size show box. We will label the box at school.