



Discovery Playhouse

Children's Society

Administrator's Column

Welcome back to everyone who enjoyed summer away from our Discovery programs. I cannot believe it is over!!!!

Our summer programs ran amazingly, thank you to all our extra staff who came and joined us for this fun period, Cara, Katti and Aliya. Rob and his team worked very hard to keep the children entertained and provided some really fun fieldtrips and activities. Much of the time was spent outdoors which, despite the first two weeks, proved to be another beautiful summer.

Daycare continued on as normal and ran on a very relaxed and happy pace. Again the children spent a great deal of time outdoors, enjoyed playing in the playground, exploring parks further afield than the school, and even walked all the way to the spray park (they loved it and boy did they sleep!!!).

Moving On!

Sadly, this is now my last newsletter as Society Administrator. I know by now you will have learned of my departure to pastures new, where I will be taking on a new position closer to home. I am really sad to leave Discovery and if there was any way I could continue I most definitely would, however my youngest child needs me right now and being a parent is never easy when you work full time as I know many of you understand. I would like to thank everyone who has made these last two years a wonderful experience for me, not least the Board who have been so supportive and allowed me to work towards the goals set by us in our Strat plan. Please do not worry. Your children are, as always, in very good hands. The program Team Leads are all extremely capable and I know they will continue to run the programs as they have without the need to be directed in the interim period. Should, however, you have any concerns or anything you feel you need to talk to someone other than a Team Lead please contact the Board directly by email executive@discoveryplayhouse.ca. I wish you well and I will have left on Friday 9th September. You will be kept up to date on who will take over the role as soon as it happens.

New Board and AGM

Please don't forget to attend our AGM on September 19th 7:00pm (more information on this will be emailed to you). The attendance to this is mandatory as you are a Society member. If you simply, for a very good reason cannot attend, please put this in writing to the Executive committee through Lori (office@discoveryplayhouse.ca). During this meeting the new Board will assume their roles. The Board will be as follows:

Chair - Joy Logie

Vice Chair - vacant - please let us know if you are interested in this position

Secretary - Jean Crowe

Treasurer - Erin Swartz

Fundraising coordinator - Gina Grewal

Committee Coordinator - still vacant - please let us know if you are interested in this position

Floater - still vacant - please let us know if you are interested in this position.

I personally know that Discovery will be in excellent hands with the new Board in place and it is an exciting time for Discovery. I would also like to thank the outgoing Board members who have been instrumental in bringing us to this point where the programs and centre are looking and running so well.

If this is your first year with us, welcome to Discovery! Please don't hesitate to call or pop by the office to talk to Lori if you have any questions or queries, equally talk to the teachers if you have any concerns about your child and need to let us know anything that you think may be something *we should* know. You are always welcome.

A Rundown of our Staff:

Just to allow new families to know who's who in the Discovery Zoo here is the list of our staff and the programs they work in:

Daycare

Tammy - Team Lead,

Christina C (ECE), Christina H, Sheryl - Assistants

Gord - Executive Dishwasher and Jodi (lunchtime helper and cleaner)

Preschool

Lori W (Teacher Lori) - Team Lead

Sonja - Assistant

Rachel - Support Assistant

Laurel - Support Assistant

Adventurer's Out of School Care

Rob - Team Lead

Jane - Assistant

Office

Lori I (office Lori)

There are times that staff get sick and may need to take some time off. Be reassured that when this happens the casual staff we use are regular and are fully qualified for the positions they fill.

Emergent Curriculum

This year, as outlined in our strat plan, we are introducing our Emergent Curriculum (which was rolled out in Daycare last year) into the preschool. This philosophy of early learning bases itself on creating topics and activities built on the interests of the children. Staff will be observing what the children are interested in and basing their planned activities and themes on this. With four preschool classes this can prove difficult as all children have different interests, but Lori and Sonja will be endeavouring to try and introduce this new way of planning. Bear with them as it will take time to settle in.

Mandy



Adventurer's Column

Welcome to all the new families as well as those returning for another year. We had a great summer and it was super busy. We want to thank Katti and Aliya for all their hard work over the summer they were awesome and the kids loved them.

Another school year is here and we are looking forward to it. Please note that if the weather is still nice we will be outside a lot. Please bring a water bottle for your child. If your child does not have slippers or shoes at the Centre, you can leave them here. We have many activities planned this year and they will include both inside and outdoor fun, but as always when the weather is nice we like to take advantage of that and will be out in the fresh air as much as possible.

If we are ever not in the room, there will be a sign by the sign in book and it will tell you where we are.

Please reminder to sign your child in and out every day and if they are not needing to be picked up from school **please let us know**. You can email or phone the Centre. If you have any questions for me, you can talk to me anytime or just email the Centre.

Have a great September!

Rob and Jane

Daycare



September is here and we would like to welcome all of our families new and returning. September is a very busy month as the children settle back into routine after summer.

The first few weeks will be busy getting our Kinders to and from school on different schedules. Please make sure we have your individual child's schedule if we don't already. Please also be sure to let us know if you will be taking/picking up your child from school as we assume if we don't hear from you that we are to do this.

The Buzzing Bees component of our program starts on Monday September 19th. This is the day we welcome the children who come from the community into our program for 4.5 hours per day (9:00-1:30). We are excited to say we have some children returning from last year and look forward to meeting our new little ones. This year our program will again include art, projects, holiday and cultural celebrations, cooking, and science under the direction of our Emergent Curriculum.

For those returning, please remember the time change from 9:00am-1:30pm - thanks.

Reminders

Please be sure that your child has running shoes every day for the gym and playground (we don't allow boots or hats in the gym).

Your child will need the following with their name clearly marked on:

- Complete change of clothing to be left at the Centre
- Water bottle
- Lunch kit
- Jacket
- Hat (sun)
- Bedding inside a pillowcase

The hot lunch program will start up again on Friday September 23rd. Every Friday the staff will provide a lunch for the daycare children following a rolling menu which offers healthy food complying with Canadian food standards.

Every Friday for daycare children is home toy day, please allow your child to bring a toy from home to share with their friends. We ask that you do not bring small pieces so as to not get lost.

Dates to remember:

- 19th - Buzzing Bees start 9:00am
- Monday Sep 26th Pro D Day (no Buzzing Bees)

Thanks,

Tammy, Sheryl, Christina H and Christina C

Preschool



Welcome to another school year. We are looking forward to this school year and spending time with your children. The first month will be "organized chaos!!" so please be patient with us as we try to get your children settled into the new routine.

Things to remember for the first few weeks:

We are a healthy snack centre and peanut aware so please refrain from sending chips, cheezies, juice, milk, yoghurt drinks, and candy.

Please bring:

- Plastic cup without a lid
- Small snack ie: cheese string, yoghurt tube, half an apple
- Bag of spare clothes including underwear and socks
- Please label cups, bag of spare clothes as well as the clothes or any outside boots and clothes
- No boots are allowed in the preschool room. Please change your child into running shoes/non- marking shoes (you may leave their boots in cubbies should we need them to go outside).

Tuesday/Thursday classes will need a 12"x10" scrapbook.

Please check your schedule for class times and when you are on duty please come 15 minutes early. Please note if you are unable to do your duty day it is your responsibility to find a replacement. (Talk to the teachers or office Lori if you need more info on how to do this).

Show and Tell will begin in October. For new parents, when you are on duty this is your child's Show and Tell day. If you do not do duty days, then please check the schedule as your child will be scheduled one day a month. We are trying something new this year and are not having 'party days'. However, we will be having *special* days throughout the year. Some of these days may need extra parent help and we will put a sign up sheet for these closer to these days.

Please remember to send your child in clothes that can get dirty - paint, glue, and sparkles are often used.

Dates to remember:

Sep 26th - Pro D - no preschool

Class photos - October 3rd and 4th - you may send your child in 'good' clothes we will not have glue or paint these days

Fieldtrip - Pumpkin patch

- Monday/Wed/Fri class - October 19th
- Tuesday/Thursday class - October 20th
- More info to follow

This year is going to be new and exciting and we look forward to spending it with your children.

Lori and Sonja