



Discovery Playhouse

Children's Society

Jan/Feb 2017

ADMINISTRATOR'S COLUMN

Hope everyone had a peaceful and relaxing break over the Christmas holidays. Talk about SNOW!!!! The kids love it and we still manage to get them outside every day. Please remember to bring labeled gloves, boots and toques for your kids. 48 gloves, 48 boots, and 24 toques can be a daunting task to sort out - and that's just in one program!



In December we had a change of staff in our Daycare, Buzzing Bees program. Tammy has moved on from Discovery and we wish her all the best. Emily Wong has come back to us full time and it's like she never left. The kids are happy to have her back! Another addition to our staff is Kaelyn. She has been helping out in the Preschool for the Tuesday and Thursday afternoon class as well as stepping in for Jane (Adventurers) during her medical leave. We are expecting Jane back to our Adventurers program in February but we'll keep you posted.

I have been getting to know the kids in all the programs over the past two months and they are amazing!!!! So much curiosity and creativity. We have been trying very hard to post daily pictures of your kids on our Facebook page so that you get to see what they're up to and you can ask them specific questions regarding their day. So many times when you ask "what did you do today?" the answer is "I don't remember." This way you can see that they made our staff beautiful in their Day Spa centre (Daycare), or how they made their Snowman Poppers (Preschool), or that they got to pet a snake and a tarantula on the day The Reptile Guy was here (Daycare & Adventurers). Yes, most of them petted the tarantula while I cautiously stayed in the furthest possible corner.

I'd like to say a HUGE Thank you to everyone for donating to our Adopt a Family for Christmas. We were able to donate close to \$700 in gift cards PLUS boxes of food and toys. The family was brought to tears by your generosity.

Our 2017/2018 Preschool registration will be starting in February. To re-register your child or for sibling registration the date to remember is Feb 6th at 12:01am. If you know of any other families wishing to register, our outside registration date is Feb 20th at 12:01am. Email to office@discoveryplayhouse.ca.

There's a lot that's going to be happening over the next few months. Our fundraiser for the year is the Pub Night on March 4th at Samz Pub. More details will be out soon. Planning will soon start for the Parade, Picnic, and Graduation, so if you're on one of these committees keep checking your emails for meeting dates. If you're not on one of the committees but would still like to be involved in the planning or other details, please let us know. Many hands make light work!

Once again here is a recap of our loyal and awesome staff:

Daycare: Christina C (ECE), Emily (ECE), Christine H (ECEA), Sheryl (ECEA),

Adventurers Team Lead: Rob

Adventurers: Jane and Kaelyn

Preschool Team Lead: Lori W (ECE)

Preschool: Sonja (ECE)

Administrator Assistant: Lori I

Executive Dishwasher: Gord; Daycare lunchtime helper: Jodi

Support Assistants: Rachel L and Laurel

Rachel Hess



DAYCARE COLUMN

Welcome back families! During December we did have a change of staff and we appreciate your patience and understanding. We are very happy to have Emily Wong back to our Discovery family and the kids love her! Our substitute staff member, Paula was in our Centre for most of December filling in for vacations and sick leave. She's been wonderful and a constant in our Centre. We're lucky to have her.

What have your kids been up to? In December the kids were really into bugs, insects and reptiles. We were pleased to have a presentation by the Reptile Guy. The kids were calm and eager to see these lovely creatures. They each were given an opportunity to pet snakes, tarantulas, lizards, and a tortoise. It was great to see. The kids had so many activities over the course of the month. They sang to the seniors, went to PME and made gingerbread houses with a grade 3/4 class, made gifts for friends, made snowmen after it snowed, and went on a Santa hunt. They never found him but he did leave them all a book. Thank you to all the families that brought in treats for the staff. Yum Yum!



Since their return, they have set up a Discovery bakery and selling their goods to customers, curing the staff of "chickenpox", and now there is a beauty salon set up in the room. We've each taken a turn getting our hair curled and cut, makeup applied and made nontoxic nail polish. The kids love making new and exciting hair styles, boys and girls!

Just a gentle reminder that all the kids need appropriate footwear for their gym time. For safety purposes boots are not acceptable.

Thank you,
Christina C, Christina H, Sheryl, Emily

PRESCHOOL COLUMN

We hope everyone had a great winter break. We are back into the swing of things here in Preschool. We have been exploring and talking about ice/snow and arctic animals. We will be celebrating Chinese New Year the week of January 23rd, making fried rice in the Mon/Wed/Fri classes. This year is the year of the Rooster.

As the weather is very cold, please make sure your children are prepared to go outside. Thank you to everyone for remembering to bring inside shoes - it keeps our room much cleaner.



Due to no school on February 10, 13, and 14, we will not be having Valentine's Parties, but we will have Friendship Day on February 8 & 9. On these days every child will need to bring a fruit that they will cut up and make "Friendship Salad" that we will eat at snack. ***Please do not cut up the fruit.*** Bring it whole so we can do the cutting at Preschool with the children. We also will have some games and art geared towards "Friends".

Looking forward to warmer weather for more outside time!

If you have any questions or concerns about the program, please feel free to come talk to the teachers.

Thanks for your support.

Lori W & Sonja

ADVENTURER'S COLUMN

Hope everyone had a wonderful winter break. With this weather, we need our kids to come prepared for this freezing cold with labeled, weather appropriate clothing since we are still going outside. These kids have energy and need outside playtime!

With Jane's medical leave Lori I has been helping with the morning drop off and Kaelyn in the afternoon. Kaelyn will be with us over Spring Break so it's been great that she's getting to know the kids and families.

What have your kids been up to? In December we had a visit from the Reptile Guy and the kids got to touch and see roughly 12 different reptiles; snakes, tarantula, a tortoise and even a dragon. They were all very well behaved, kids and animals 😊. After their outdoor time at the playground they love coming back to the room and playing board games (Stratego is very popular), doing crafts, building forts, Magformers, and the newest learning game is the Osmo. It's an iPad game teaching spelling, math, drawing and reasoning. They love it and don't even realize they're learning!

We are planning for our Spring Break adventures and we'll keep you posted.

Rob

