Dear Preschool Families,

Best wishes for a happy holiday season!

Our theme in January will be the “Ocean”. We will learn many finger plays and songs, read various books and learn about ocean life. We will conclude the theme with Beach Day for our 3-year old students and Hawaiian Day for our 4 year old students. Please dress for the beach, bring a beach towel and a tropical snack. During Hawaiian Day our preschoolers will have a chance to taste a delicious pineapple. Let us know if you have any concerns about this.

Library visits

Our monthly visits to the Canmore library will start in January. We will take buses to the library for this special program with Ms. Rhonda. Student pick up on library days will be from the library (except for Ms. Carmen’s 4-yr afternoon class which will ride the bus both ways with pick up, as usual, at the preschool). Due to safety concerns, we ask that parents arrive 10-15 minutes earlier to assist their child in selecting and checking out 2 books together. Please arrange for your child to have a library card before their first trip. This can be done at the library and there is no cost involved. For your convenience, application forms will be available in the preschool lobby closer to the library dates.

Music with Ms. Sue

Our 3 year old classes will start our bi-monthly music program with Ms. Sue in January. Pre-K classes will continue with monthly classes with Ms. Sue.

Transitions to Pre-K

January is the time when many families begin looking into programs for the upcoming school year. If your child is moving on to a Pre-K program, we encourage you to take a closer look at how our programs grow with your child. Please consider the information below to learn how our programs evolve and build on your child’s previous experience with us. We would also like invite you to see our Pre-K program in action! Please contact the office to arrange a visit during January or February or to talk with our teachers. We would love to tell you more!

We look forward to new learning adventures together in 2017!

Ms. Carmen and Ms. Claire
“Slippery Fish” by Charlotte Diamond will be our signature song for the month of January. Here are the lyrics for you to enjoy the song at home together with your child!

**Slippery Fish** (by Charlotte Diamond)

Slippery fish, slippery fish
Sliding through the water,
Slippery Fish, slippery fish,
GULP! GULP! GULP!
OH, NO! It’s been eaten by an...

Octopus, Octopus,
Squiggling through the water
Octopus, Octopus,
GULP! GULP! GULP!

OH, NO! It’s been eaten by a...

Tuna fish, tuna fish,
Flashing through the water
Tuna fish, Tuna fish
GULP! GULP! GULP!
OH, NO! It’s been eaten by a...

Great white shark, great white shark,
Lurking in the water
Great white shark, great white shark
GULP! GULP! GULP!
OH, NO! It’s been eaten by a...

Humongous whale, humongous whale,
Spouting in the water.
Humongous whale, humongous whale,
GULP! GULP! GULP! BURP!! *(PARDON ME!)*

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**Rocky Mountain Raffle**

Total Tickets Sold: 1,500
Gross Revenue: $7,500
Costs: $168.51 *(AGLC License, ticket printing, thank you notes)*
Net Revenue: $7,331.49

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**Drawing the winners**

All the winners are listed on our website canmorepreschool.com.

*Thank you for buying and selling tickets! Thank you to the prize donors!*
Our Programs at a Glance

Canmore Preschool grows with your child, from their first experience of school to preparing them for Kindergarten. Below, we have outlined some of our class activities. Everything listed for the 3-Year-Old program is also included in Pre-K, but Pre-K classes have more challenging games and crafts, appropriate to the children’s development, as well as additional activities like baking bread, sprouting seeds, and learning to write upper case letters.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>3-Year-Old Program</th>
<th>Pre-Kindergarten Program</th>
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| 2 hours x 2 days a week, mornings or afternoons | 3 hours x 3 days a week (mornings)  
3 hours x 4 days a week (afternoons) |
| Positive introduction to school:  
* Build trusting relationships with other adults  
* Foster self-esteem  
* Encourage interactions with peers  
* Establish classroom routine and expectations | Foster positive connection with school:  
* Further improve social skills  
* Build friendships  
* Encourage cooperation and teamwork |
| Circle times:  
* Storytime: books, felt stories, puppet shows  
* Songs and finger plays  
* Games  
* Discussions, turn taking | Extended circle times:  
* Calendar activities with counting songs  
* Introduction to letters of the week and phonics, making use of the Handwriting Without Tears (HWT) program  
* Empathy program – literacy circles and baby visits |
| Learning stations:  
* These activities change daily and may include prewriting activities, painting, cutting and pasting, colouring, seasonal crafts, playdough, sorting by colors or shapes, building or imaginative toys, games | Learning stations:  
* Introduction to printing upper case letters and students’ names making use of the HWT program  
* More advanced crafts, colouring, cutting and pasting  
* Introduction to mathematical literacy through counting, patterning, sorting |
| Play Centers:  
* A favorite time! Both programs have an opportunity for child-directed play in one of the many play centers: house center, story center, building center, puzzles, sand table, water table, painting easel, etc. | Play Centers:  
* In PreK, students are expected to track their movement through the centers, thus, making choices, taking turns, and trying new things. |
| Gym activities:  
* Daily physical activities in the gym: musical activities, games, use of equipment such as bean bags, ribbons, balls, hula hoops, parachutes, etc. | Gym activities:  
* Additional focus on fundamental movement skills  
* Body moves classes with a physical education specialist |
| Music classes:  
* Bimonthly classes with a music specialist beginning in January | Music classes:  
* Monthly classes with a music specialist throughout the year |
| Outdoor activities:  
* Scheduled bimonthly outdoor days, sometimes more when taking advantage of good weather  
* Seasonal nature walks | Outdoor activities:  
* Additional scavenger hunt nature walks  
* Cross country ski day |
| Sensory Adventures:  
* Discovering new foods on color days  
* Baking Mother’s day and Father’s day goodies | Sensory Adventures:  
* Seasonal projects: making apple sauce, soup, Christmas cookies, and tea cake, baking bread, carving pumpkins, growing lettuce and spinach from seed in the spring, etc. |
| Library visits:  
A school bus ride for a program designed especially for our 2 age groups – books, fingerplays, songs and other activities with Ms. Rhonda and the chance to take out books from the Library at Elevation Place. |  |
| Community visitors:  
We are so fortunate to have a variety of community members support our program through visits and presentations tailored to our 2 age groups: health nurses, veterinarians, fire fighters, environmental educators, nutritionists, dental hygienists, RCMP officers, local athletes...and sometimes other talented parents! |  |
Happy New Year

Canmore Preschool 2016/17

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Newsletter Delivery

The Canmore Preschool is doing its part for the environment. We try not to print our monthly newsletter. Each edition will be emailed to parents, and can be viewed on our website at www.canmorepreschool.com

Please send any submissions to stacie.longworth@yahoo.com by the 15th of the month if you have any information to add. Thank you!

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Canmore, Alberta T1W 2H5
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Fax: 403 678-4361
info@canmorepreschool.com
www.canmorepreschool.com
Like us on Facebook!
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**Winter Break - Classes resume January 9th, 2017**