A Message from our Teachers

Happy New Year and welcome back to school! It’s been great to see all of our students again and hear about their holiday adventures…and see how much many have grown over the break!

We have enjoyed learning about ocean creatures during our ocean “escape” this month. Our first ride on the school bus and trip to the library was a highlight! Please remember that students should be picked up at the library on these days (except for Ms. Carmen’s Pre-K 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 15 minutes earlier to assist their child in selecting and checking out 2 books together. If you haven’t already done so, please arrange for your child to have a library card. This can be done at the library and there is no cost involved.

In February, we will focus on sharing, caring, love and friendship. For our Valentine’s Day parties we will be making mailboxes. We encourage children to bring Valentine cards to distribute. In doing so, write only who the cards are from, that is YOUR child’s name (ex. From Jack). Please do not address the cards to specific students. This makes it easier to drop one into each mailbox one after another without having to search back and forth for particular names. Many of our students will enjoy writing their names themselves. If so, please allow plenty of time to do so in order to make this a positive experience.

Please also remember that in following the Canadian Rockies school calendar, there will be no school Family Day week – February 18-22.

This is the time of year when many families of our Pre-K families make decisions about Kindergarten. If your child has a late birthday or you have any questions or concerns about your child’s readiness, please make a point of talking your child’s teacher.

Similarly, families of our 3 year old students are looking into preschool options for next 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 chart attached to learn how our programs evolve and build on your child’s previous experience with us. We would also like to invite you to see our Pre-K program in action! Please contact the office to arrange a visit or to talk with our teachers. We would love to tell you more!

A fingerplay for February:

I put my hands together,
This is how I start;
I curve my fingers right around,
And I can make a Heart!

Ms. Claire and Ms. Carmen
PreK Cross Country Skiing

Wednesday, March 13th —
No regular PreK classes on this day!
This is a regular class day for the 3yo Afternoon class only.

(We originally emailed March 6th as the date, but it is changed to the 13th!!!)
March 13th will be a special day for our PreK classes. Parents, please plan to bring your child to the Nordic Centre, with a helmet, and stay for the hour-long lesson (schedule below). It is okay for one parent to bring two or three kids if your child has been skiing before and will not need your active help throughout the lesson. Please look in your cubbies in February to find the permission slip. Thanks!

Claire’s PreK morning class, arrive Nordic Centre at 9:00am, lesson 9:30-10:30am.
Carmen’s PreK morning class, arrive Nordic Centre at 10:30am, lesson 11:00am-12:00pm.
Carmen’s PreK afternoon class, arrive Nordic Centre at 12:30am, lesson 1:00-2:00pm.

Registration Night & AGM

Wednesday, March 6, 2019 - 7:00 p.m.
Holiday Inn, 1 Silvertip Trail, Canmore. (Nakiska Room, Level P)
Thank you to the Holiday Inn for donating the meeting space!

In order to register for 2019-2020, and ensure your child’s place:
1. Complete the online registration, open now, including the $45 registration fee.
2. On March 6, attend AGM at the Holiday Inn.
   - Families who attend will be placed in classes before families who do not attend.
   - The meeting will last about an hour & has 2 purposes –
     o AGM – Society members (you!) elect the board for the following year. We cannot accept registrations for the following year until there is a board in place. We truly are a parent-directed organization
     o Registration – If you registered online, just be sure to sign in.
   - We will provide childcare on site during the meeting for those who need it.
   - Paper registration forms will also be available at the meeting if needed.
3. In April, we will advise families of their class placements.

If you volunteer for the Board your class placement will be guaranteed, as well as fulfilling your volunteer hours for the year. Board members still participate as parent-of-the-day in the classroom.

If there are too many applicants for a particular class, we assign space in that class by lottery. Parents must attend AGM for their child to enter the lottery. Once initial class lists have been made, all families who did not attend AGM will be placed or waitlisted in the order received, as space allows. After AGM, we continue to accept registrations on a rolling basis as space allows.

Please see the following page for our 2018-2019 class schedule and fees.
Children make enormous developmental strides from the time they turn three until they are 5-year-olds heading to their first day of Kindergarten. Our program continues to challenge them throughout this dynamic time, by adding complexity and interest as children develop new skills.

Our program grows with your child...

3-Year-Old Preschool
Offers an introduction to school with art, theme days, music classes, daily gym time, outdoor days, library visits, community visitors, games, puzzles, & more.

To register for 3yo Preschool, children must be born in 2016, and potty trained.

3yo Morning Class
8:45-11:00am
Tuesday/Thursday
$ 127.50/month
10 Sept 2019 - 19 June 2020
Parents must volunteer about once/month

3yo Afternoon Class
12:30-2:30pm
Tues/Thurs or Mon/Wed
$ 122.50/month
9 Sept 2019 - 19 June 2020
Parents must volunteer about once/month

Pre-Kindergarten
Offers all of the elements in 3yo preschool with added complexity for older children.

Plus Handwriting Without Tears, Empathy program, Body Moves classes, calendar counting songs, bread baking, soup making, seed sprouting, seasonal scavenger hunts, cross country ski day, super helper system, & more.

To register for PreK, children must be born in 2015, and potty trained.

PreK Morning Class
8:45-11:45am
Monday/Wednesday/Friday
$ 160/month
9 Sept 2019 - 19 June 2020
Parents must volunteer about once/month

PreK Afternoon Class
12:30-3:30pm
Monday-Thursday
$ 215/month
9 Sept 2019 - 19 June 2020
Parents must volunteer 3x/year
Educational assistant 3x/week

Our programs are eligible for the income-based AB Stay-At-Home Subsidy!
Coming in March - Grocery Card Fundraising!

We have the opportunity, along with other non-profit clubs in Canmore, to purchase pre-paid grocery cards from Save-on-Foods. Preschool keeps 10% of sales!

- **There is no cost to you** other than the short wait between when you pay and when you receive your cards.
- The cards can be used anytime for your routine grocery shopping.
- The cards are like cash, so please keep them safe!
- If you’d like to ask family and friends to support us by ordering grocery cards, that would be great! Please pool any other orders with yours and submit one payment.
- **Orders are due by March 7, 2019.**

Order forms will be in your cubbies in February. Thank you!

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**February 2019**

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