A Message from our Teachers
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 at no cost.

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 to make it easier to drop one into each mailbox 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.

Following the Canadian Rockies school calendar, there will be no school during Family Day week – February 17-21.

This is the time of year when many 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 talk to your child’s teacher!

Similarly, families of our 3 year old students are considering preschool options for next year. If your child is progressing to Pre-K, we encourage you to take a closer look at how our program grows with your child. Our PreK classes are more complex than our 3yo classes. We 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

Registration Night & AGM
Wednesday, March 4, 2020 - 7:00 p.m.
Holiday Inn, 1 Silvertip Trail, Canmore
Thank you to the Holiday Inn for donating the space!

In order to register for 2020-2021, and ensure your child’s place:
1. In February, complete the online registration at canmorepreschool.com, and pay the $45 fee.
2. On March 4, attend AGM at the Holiday Inn.
   - The meeting has 2 purposes –
     - Board Election – Society members (you!) elect the volunteer board for the following year. We cannot make class lists until there is a full board.
     - Registration – If you registered online, be sure to sign in at end of the meeting.
   - The meeting will last about an hour.
   - Volunteers will provide childcare on site during the meeting for those who need it.
3. We will advise families of their class placements as soon as we can following AGM.

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 in rotation with the other families, but the board position fulfills the 4-hours required outside of class. Email info@canmorepreschool.com, if you are interested in volunteering, or look for the sign-up sheets in the lobby.

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 2020-2021 class schedule and fees.
Hope to see you at AGM. Thanks!
PreK Cross Country Skiing
Wednesday, March 11th –
No regular PreK classes on this day!
This is a regular class day for the 3yo PM class only.

March 11th 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 late 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.

What Changes from 3yo Preschool to PreK?
For those of you currently in our 3yo classes, you may wonder if PreK is the same program. It’s not! In addition to longer classes, more complex games, crafts, and activities, here are some of the highlights of what you can expect in PreK that you will not have seen in the 3yo programs. These are in addition to all the favorites – library visits, music with Entangled Puppetry, puppet shows, Mothers Day tea party songs and projects, community visitors, etc.

- Handwriting Without Tears – curriculum for learning to write.
- Empathy Program – with literacy circles, art projects, and monthly baby visits.
- Super Helper System – each day a different child will be the teacher’s super helper with special responsibilities.
- Calendar Counting Songs – during circle time at the start of each class, the group goes over the monthly calendar, the daily schedule, and the letter sound of the day with special songs.
- Body Moves – physical literacy classes with Cathy Robinson.
- Ski Day – a cross country skiing lesson with TrailSports at the Nordic Centre.
- Food Adventures – bread baking, apple sauce making, pumpkin carving, soup making, cookie baking, pineapple tasting, and more.
- Seed Sprouting – in the spring we will plant lettuce and spinach seeds for tasting, as well as making “grass heads” with sprouted grass seed for hair that we can cut as it grows.
- Additional activities when the opportunity arises – this year so far PreK has also enjoyed a visit from AB Parks educators & a walk to Crockadoodle for a special craft.
### 2020 January Parent Survey

**SUMMARY**  39 Respondents

#### What do you like about Canmore Preschool? What features are most important to you?
- Answered: 36, Skipped: 3
  - Teachers/Staff 22
  - Activities/Curriculum 15
  - Play-based Learning 10
  - Routine/Structure 7
  - Parent Involvement 5
  - Location/Facility 5
  - Community Visitors 4
  - Small Class Size 4
  - Short/Half-Day Classes 3
  - Affordable/Fundraising 2

#### How can we better serve the needs of your child and your family?
- Answered: 23, Skipped: 16
  - Completely Satisfied 19
  - Keep fees affordable 3
  - Longer classes for 3yos 2
  - Longer classes for PreK 2
  - More outdoor time 2
  - Do not participate in Casino/Raffle/Gambling 1
  - Organize parent-teacher conferences 1
  - Coordinate schedule with elementary schools in town to not have events on the same day 1

#### Are you happy with the current days/hours of operation at preschool?
- Answered: 39, Skipped: 0
  - Yes 90% 35
  - No 10% 4

#### For those in PreK, do you feel the program has prepared your child for kindergarten?
- Answered: 22, Skipped: 0
  - Yes 100% 22
  - No 0% 0

#### For those in the 3yo program, do you plan to enroll with us for Pre-Kindergarten in 2020-2021?
- Answered: 16, Skipped: 1
  - Yes 71% 12
  - No 24% 4

#### Do you like the Parent-of-the-Day system?
- Answered: 39, Skipped: 0
  - Yes 97% 38
  - No 3% 1

#### Should we raise fees to eliminate volunteering in the classroom?
- Answered: 39, Skipped: 0
  - I would prefer to pay more and not volunteer as Parent-of-the-Day. 5% 2
  - Either way is fine. 18% 7
  - I prefer to volunteer as Parent-of-the-Day and keep fees lower. 77% 30

#### Should we raise fees to eliminate some or all fundraising?
- Answered: 37, Skipped: 2
  - Eliminate all fundraising and increase annual fees by $375.00 per 3-year-old student and by $750.00 per Pre-K student. 0%
  - Eliminate all fundraising, except the Casino and Artisans Market, and increase annual fees by $100.00 per 3-year-old student and by $200.00 per Pre-K student. 8%
  - Eliminate all fundraising, except the Casino, Artisans Market, and Raffle, and increase annual fees by $30.00 per 3-year-old student and by $60.00 per Pre-K student. 16%
  - Continue current fees and fundraising as is. 76%
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sun</th>
<th>Mon</th>
<th>Tues</th>
<th>Wed</th>
<th>Thurs</th>
<th>Fri</th>
<th>Sat</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**February 2020**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Body Moves PreKAM, PreKPM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Music w/Tangle 3yoPMm/w</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Music w/Tangle 3yoAM, 3yoPMt/t PreKPM Outdoors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Outdoor Day PreKAM, 3yoPMm/w, PreKPM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Outdoor Day 3yoAM, 3yoPMt/t</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>RED Day &amp; Valentines 3yoPMm/w</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>RED Day &amp; Valentines 3yoAM, 3yoPMt/t, PreKPM Music w/Tangle 3yoPMm/w, PreKPM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>RED Day &amp; Valentines PreKAM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Family Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>LIBRARY Visit PreKAM, 3yoPMm/w, PreKPM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>LIBRARY Visit 3yoAM, 3yoPMt/t</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Outdoor Day PreKAM, 3yoPMm/w</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Outdoor Day 3yoAM, 3yoPMt/t PreKPM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Family Week - No classes*