



Treasure Our Young Ones Child Care Centre ʔiihmisuk ʔaatñaʔis January 2018 NEWSLETTER

JANUARY

DATES TO REMEMBER

We will be closed on January 1st for New Year's Day. **Happy New Year everybody!**

OSC FULL DAYS

Our full days for the OSC in January are the 2, 3, 4, 5 ☺. School starts back up on January 8th and we remind all OSC families to please inform us by phone (250-723-8281 EXT 270), email (khunt@pafriendshipcenter.com) or text (250-720-7305) if your child **does not** require pick up afterschool.

LANGUAGE NEST

Come in and check out all of our new language materials! We have the alphabet posted in the cubby area and also animals, weather, colours and numbers (all in Nuu-Chah-Nulth) in the 3-5 room. We are working on getting these materials in all the classrooms plus basic items all over the centre labelled (like doors, windows, chairs etc). We have copies of the Nuu-Chah-Nulth alphabet with pronunciation key should anybody wish to have one—just ask Kristen! A big thank you to Josh, Fidelia, Patty and Julia for translating some of our much loved children's books and songs into Nuu-Chah-Nulth.

OUTDOOR PLAY

Just a reminder that we need wet/rainy day clothing for your children. Please be sure to send a coat, hat, gloves, boots and muddy buddy as we do go outside everyday as part of our Childcare Licensing Active Play Policy. Kids need fresh air and going outside means the germs aren't getting trapped inside with us all day long. If you feel your child is not well enough to play outdoors, please keep them at home.



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We need your help to ensure that sick children stay at home where they are most comfortable. We thank those of you who do keep your children home, but we have noticed a lot of children coming to daycare when they are not well and we would like to print a friendly reminder of the policy in the parent handbook regarding illness. If your child has a fever, or **has had a fever within the last 24 hours**, we ask you to keep your child home. If your child has vomited **within the last 24 hours**, please keep them home. If your child has had diarrhea **in the last 24 hours**, please keep them home. If your child is complaining of ear pain, has a wet cough, green runny nose or has an unexplained rash, please keep them home. We are finding that this is not happening enough and even though the teachers wash hands and clean and disinfect like fiends, the sickness perpetuates and goes through every child and teacher and ultimately the families waiting at home. When your child is ill, they are upset, out of sorts and crying constantly which is exhausting for your child and the children around them—sick children want to be at home and require a higher level of care than what is possible at daycare. We do call parents to come pick up any sick children. If we cannot reach the parents we will attempt to call the emergency contacts until somebody is available to come for your child, however, it is best to keep your child home if they have had any symptoms of illness within the last 24 hours. Thank you! ☺

ACTIVITIES

In the multi-age room, Bree made all sorts of Christmas decorations with the kids. They made Christmas balls for the tree, salt dough ornaments, sparkly snowflakes and much more. The children had an opportunity to bake cookies and Bree set up the sensory bin with “snow dough” which is literally like playing with a fluffy cloud. The children have made and laminated placemats for their snack table to help them start working on name recognition and routines.

In the 3-5 room, Brienne and Trina created Christmas collages, popsicle stick puppets, made playdough with the children and have taken a few trips next door to run around the gym and play ball. Dramatic play has been at an all time high with the addition of a giant bin of Polly Pockets and accessories. The focus this month has been on smooth transitions, giving children plenty of warning before a new activity is introduced (like cleaning up for snack, circle or outside time). This is a work in progress as transitions are always a tricky time for children.

In the Infant/Toddler room Lisa and Sarah worked on making snow people, handprint wreaths, snowflakes, footprint Christmas trees and continued to explore with paint. Lisa worked really hard on making the cedar wreaths with all of the children in the centre so every child would have one to take home. We have been working on saying “more please” when asking for more food at lunch or snack (instead of squawking at us like baby birds ☺) and waiting their turn.

In the OSC, A generous donation \$250 was given to buy Christmas craft materials so the children could make something everyday in December. They did: colour by numbers, Christmas ornaments, made sticker pictures, gingerbread houses, playdough, clay, and added some new toys like Peppa pig, ponies, colouring books and the children all received advent calendars. The OSC group has been working on inclusion, respecting one another’s beliefs, taking turns and singing.



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A big thank you to Bob and Bonnie and Faithlyn for their ongoing generosity and support of our centre- without them we would not have had an amazing fieldtrip to the pumpkin patch, gifts from Santa or party snacks at our Christmas party. Not to mention the endless sticker supply 😊. Thank you so much! We would also like to thank Tracy, Carryn and Douglas for the donation of a brand new kitchen centre and Pepa Pig house. We appreciate all of the gently used clothes and jackets and boots that have also been coming in from various families, they have been going to our friends in need.

Want to help? We can always use art supplies (paint, glue, construction paper, markers, collage materials, etc.). Used toys in good condition (we'll clean them!) and donations of clothing.

DENTAL SCREENINGS

Taryn Coates from VIHA will be here on January 31st to do dental screenings of all the children and provide flouride varnish for those who give consent (consent forms and information are attached to this newsletter). Healthy teeth are important for growing and developing little people and we are pleased to be able to offer this program at the daycare. Please note, participation is completely OPTIONAL. If you do not wish your child to be screened or have flouride varnish, please indicate this on the form attached to this Newsletter. Thank you!

OUTREACH THERAPY “STARS” PROGRAM COMING TO ?iihmisuk taatna?is!

On January 13th Caroline will be attending Stars, an outreach therapy pre-k program which will allow her to administer the Stars group curriculum using occupational therapy tools and techniques. The children will be presented the program in small groups of 5 children and will learn about managing transitions, attending to task, turn taking and appropriate social interaction, fine motor development, scissor skills, pre-printing and literacy skills and gross motor development/heavy work. These skills are most important for our children heading off to kindergarten and they will be our main focus as we begin, ultimately working up to and including all of the children in the centre. After 8 weeks of participation, the children will receive a “report card” which will help teachers and families identify any areas where there may be developmental delays (physical, cognitive, speech, etc.) and connections to communitiy resources like preschool speech services or occupational therapy can be made to help support the child's development. Consent forms and more information for this wonderful program will be sent home prior to beginning. Please feel free to speak with Kristen or Caroline should you have any questions!

