



Lord Roberts Children's Program Winter 2017

A Note from the Director

Welcome to the end of 2017! It is funny to me that a New Year starts in January when everything in the world really seems to start in September- school, meetings, new children in the centre and the list goes on and on. At this point in time all our children are settled and have become familiar with the centre and the staff - the school-age kids have settled into their classrooms and are into the routines of the school-year and we are all wishing for no snowsuits and winter wear!

Many of you know that I am currently the President of our professional association (Manitoba Child Care Association) and I would like you to know that we work hard on many issues regarding the childcare sector- not just for the amazing staff in the field but also on behalf of the families in Manitoba who use childcare, are on lists for childcare, who will be needing childcare....you get the drift. We advocate for more spaces, for keeping parent fees

affordable, to make sure subsidies are indexed so that childcare does not become a service for the very poor or very rich but rather for anyone who chooses to use childcare for the many reasons that families have for coming to us. We meet regularly with our licensing body and make recommendations for changes to the system based on the frontline perspectives of what is happening in the field, to discuss changes that are coming down the pipes and to ensure that the families and staff have a voice at the table. Where am I going with this you may wonder- well- I would like to share with you the words of a former MLA-"...when I receive 10 calls on any given issue I know it is something I need to look into..". As an association we contact our members to make sure they are doing their part in bringing issues forward like waitlists, funding for children with additional support needs etc but a voice that is missing sometimes is

the parent voice in the lobbying efforts. As a parent it is important that you keep this MLA's words with you as your child grows so that you become your child's strongest advocate! If you do not like something (say for example the changes to bussing in a school division) use your voice and make those calls, send those letters attend those meetings- it can make a real difference! I have been a member of MCCA for a very long time and my biggest wish is to harness your voices as parents alongside the staff in the sector to be a big ROAR so that early learning and childcare gets the same attention that the health and education sectors do. Enough said! As we move in to 2018 I wish each and everyone connected to LRCP from our wee ones right up to our senior citizens a wonderful year filled with lots of good things!
April

LRCP

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December 2017

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News from the Sunshine Room

Where has the time gone??? We can't believe it is already December. The weather has not been too bad as of yet and we have been able to spend a lot of time enjoying the outdoors and what snow we have. I'm sure there is more snow on its way and the—40 temperature is yet to come. Please make sure children have everything they need for outdoor play: hat, mitts, scarf, boots, ski pants, jacket—clearly labeled as well please.

All children have been divided into their groups and lists are located at the entrance of the locker area. On each of the children's baskets in their lockers you will find a picture of either a bumble bee, Scooby doo, butterfly, dragonfly or lady bug. That

is the group your child belongs to. Located in the Sunshine Room are white boards where you will find what your child is doing during circle. Feel free to come on in and check it out!

The staff have been busy preparing for the holidays and getting the children ready to sing you some wonderful holiday carols for our party on December 21. They sound amazing and we cannot wait for you to hear them sing.

The staff have also been busy working on numbers, letters, colors, recognizing their names, etc for the children's assessments which we do twice a year (January and May). These assessments help us learn where chil-

dren are based on cognitive, physical, emotional, and creative development. The final assessments will be completed in May, where we will have a parent night to discuss your child's development. The mid-year reports will be completed by mid January. Please feel free to talk to the staff anytime regarding your child's development or any questions or concerns you may have.



We will be planning a few activities and possibly a field trip during the first week of January as children are still not back to school. So keep a look out for an email with details on this.

Have a happy and safe holiday season!

Hello from the Rainbow Room

Well December is here and the holiday cheer is in full swing in the Rainbow Room. We have a lot of crafts and activities planned and we would love to hear about your family traditions so we can incorporate them, We can't wait to celebrate with everyone at our Holiday Party this year!

Please remember that we spend a lot of time outside so the children winter clothes are necessary everyday.

We had to say goodbye to Whitely and Ryker, who moved over to the Sunshine Room. We are happy to welcome Connor and Wade to the Rainbow Room.

Lastly we want to wish a happy 2nd birthday to Mina.



Happy Holidays from the Rainbow Room!

Important December Hours and Closures

Reminder of some very important December hours and closures for daycare:

Friday December 22- Last day of School before holidays

Friday December 22- Daycare closed at 1pm

Monday December 25- Daycare closed

Tuesday December 26- Daycare closed

Wednesday December 27 —Open regular hours

Thursday December 28- Open regu-

lar hours

Friday December 29- closed at 1pm

Monday January 1- Daycare closed

Tuesday January 2- 5- open regular hours

News from School-age

Even though it's the middle of winter I have started the process of motivating our school agers into fundraising for our summer. This however is not an easy task to take on. Lots of big ideas, which I love, but very little follow through once those ideas leave the comfort of their mouths. Can't say I really blame them though. It's like daycare homework on top of school work. Where's the appeal in that right?

So here lays my challenge, finding ways to motivate the children into fundraising. Through past experience I know that when you find the right motivation to inspire them it's not difficult to get them onboard and

keep them there. One example being our bake sales for the Humane Society last summer. I can't remember the exact number we raised but I know it was quite a bit more than any of them anticipated us making. Another example being the push for new toys. We raised enough there that I was able to go out and purchase a wide assortment of board games and miscellaneous items of interest. So where is the common denominator in both those things? One is for charity another is for them so no commonality there. Both were bake sales so that could be something. Let's look past the obvious and delve a little deeper. I don't think I have seen a

group of children more pleased or proud of what they had accomplished together as they did when they found out the total of the profits they made for both the Humane Society and their toy drive. So maybe that's what I have to add to inspire them. Something visibly achievable sooner than later.

Now the question becomes what? Maybe this is a question I should pose to the children. If we raise a certain amount of money for the summer carnival what would you like our reward to be for achieving our goal? Look at that! All it took was sharing my thoughts in the newsletter

- Shawna

Holiday Party (Preschool and School-age)

Preschool: The preschool holiday party is on Thursday December 21. We will be starting in the gym at 4pm with Holiday Carols, followed by a visit from Santa (shh it's a surprise). There will be treats in the gym as well so please save the date and come out and join us for this always super fun event. All our welcome!



School-age: The school-age holiday party is on Tuesday December 19. We will be starting at 3:45 with Holiday Carols, followed by a visit from Santa who will hand out the gift exchange presents. There will be treats served as well in the main room. All are welcome so please come out and join us!

Holiday Hamper

Every year we put out a donation box at preschool and later deliver it to the Winnipeg Cheer Board.

We would like to start a new tradition this year of choosing a new cause to donate to every year.

This year, we will be making the donation to Willow Place. Willow Place is an emergency shelter for women and children.

The need is year round, but the holidays can be a difficult time for these families. Some of the main necessities Willow Place is in need of are, but not limited to, baby food and formula, canned goods, laundry pods, diapers and wipes, as well as hygiene products and much more. The donation boxes are out and located on the



counter as you walk into the preschool daycare. Listed on the boxes are all the items needed for Willow Place. Any little bit helps these families this holiday season.

Any questions please come and see me
Thank you
Renee

LRCP

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The board meets monthly- If you have issues, ideas, or thoughts, please ask April for the contact information

All I Want for Christmas is....

Preschool:

Mason: PJ mask
Anni- Baby Alive
Griffin- Paw Patrol
Connor- Batman Car with Batman lego
Owen H- Garbage Truck
Ryker- Red Monster Truck
Theo- Robot Batman
Autumn- Belle Doll
Justin- Puzzle
Cohen- Garbage Truck
Zoya- Craft Set
Nadia- Hello Kitty

Berlynn- Shimmer Shine
Ridley- Teddy Bear
Brodie: Everything
Brooke: Yoyo
Korbin: Paw Patrol
Brayden L: Power Ranger
Dylan: Shovel
Tashi: Barbie Dool
Ruby: A doll
Charlotte: Barbie's

From the Staff at Lord Roberts Childrens Program, we would like to wish you all a very safe and wonderful holiday season!

