

January 2019

# Lord Roberts Children's Program's Winter 2019

## Letter from Director

Welcome to 2019!

The start of a new year... a time for resolutions to be made, and broken! At LRCP we actually feel like the year begins in September and by January all the children are settled and in routines both at the preschool and the school-age. Routine sounds like such a boring word but one thing we know for sure is that routine is important for children and routine with flexibility built into it is even more important. We strive to be consistent in our schedule so that both children and parents know what to expect at different times of the day, who children will be with and who to go to with questions. We also strive to make sure that all the staff and children are comfortable together so if someone is away all is good-children feel safe and secure regardless of which staff is with them. The flexibility we try to incorporate might look like giving children continue with an activity even though it is outdoor time, it might mean we have a large group time instead of small group times

when there is a visitor like Al Simmons, it might mean that staff trade off when working 1:1 with children, it might look like a whole bunch of things largely determined by the needs of the children at any given time. Routines are a part of the day and are the cogs that keep the wheels turning and usually are based on time commitments or regulations. Snacks and lunch are a certain time because children go to class, activities are broken up into groups because of regulations on group size, and going outside everyday is part of the day because of regulations and the very real need for fresh air and big muscle movement. The environment in our program is fluid and can look chaotic but there really is a structure in place and sometimes if you only see parts of it you may find it hard to believe!

On another note I would just like to make a mention that this January is year three of no increase to the operating budget of any licensed not-for-profit centre in Manitoba. This means that al-

though costs go up the centre's ability to provide quality programming and keep staff becomes more and more limited. We are not allowed to charge extra daily fees however the Province has now opened the door to charge for things like snack which we have never done. Coming soon from the Manitoba Child Care Association will be a petition that we hope to present for reading in the House that will call for an increase to funding- we will be looking of course, for signatures so please stay tuned for more information on this....we will need the families who use this service to join in this lobby before centres are in financial difficulties.

Bye for now, April

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## News from Sunshine Room

Hello Families, News from the Sunny Sunshine Room!

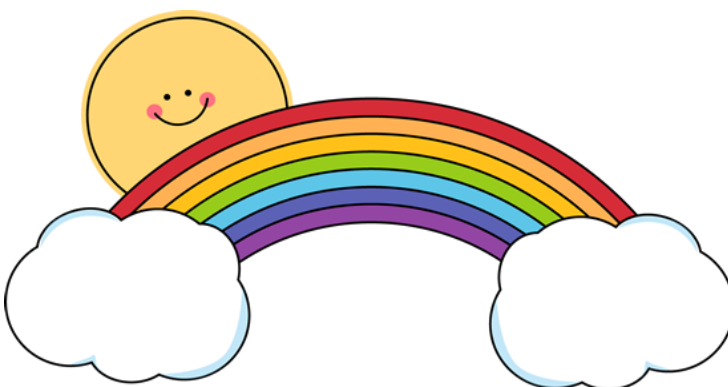
It's hard to believe that we are in 2019 and nearing the end of January. Where did the time go? We had a very busy Decemer preparing for our Holiday party and for Christmas. We hope you all enjoyed the holilday party. We would also like to thank all of our families for the wonderful food donations. It was a great stress reliever for the staff.

Over the next several weeks the staff will be very busy working on the children's assessments.

The assessments allow us to assess the children's emotional, social, cognitive and physical development. This year we will be using a new assessment form. During the spring season we will be hosting a parent night (same as parent teacher interviews that the schools do).

At this time you will receive your child's assessment to discuss their progress. Valentines day is just around the corner. On Thursday February 14th, the pre-school will be having a Valentines party with a variety of activities throughout the day. More information to follow closer to the day. Please trake a moment to read the staff bios to your right on the blue wall as you enter the center. At the same time we would like to welcome our staff member Sarah. If you haven't had a chance to meet Sarah please stop by and say hello.

Enjoy the rest of the winter season!



## News from The Rainbow Room



Hello everyone! We hope you all had a great holiday season! This past year was very busy one but we had so much fun! We are very excited for all the things we have planned for the new year. We have lots of new activities planned for the children, during our indoor and outdoor play. Even though it has been getting colder the kids have been loving being outside and getting to explore all that winter has to offer. With the cold weather in mind please to dress the children in warm clothes. Also please make sure to send lots of extra clothes, we love to get messy in this room! Lastly I would like to thank all of our parents so much, you guys spoiled us rotten over the holidays and it was greatly appreciated! Happy new year!

## Hello from School Age

“Happy New Year”

The staff here at School-Age program hope you all had a wonderful winter break and were able to spend some time enjoying the mild temperatures with your children. With lowers numbers of children in our program during the break we were able to do a more thorough cleaning and organizing. Our room will also be given a fresh coat of paint on February 1st.

The children are enjoying the dramatic area which has been transformed into a Ice cream Shoppe. Watching the children engage in role play as customers, cashiers and “ice cream makers”, they are developing social skills (taking turns and problem solving) as well as cognitive skills—writing and math skills with tasks such as taking orders and making change for their customers.

Your child has also been busy working together to cre-



ate diorama of various habitats for animals of the north, Check out the science area next time you pick up your child.

Big thank you to all who brought milk jugs in for our Igloo Project that had been planned for winter break. Unfortunately because of fire regulations we will not be able to create it. However some of the jugs have been repurposed to make curling rocks and snow scoops. With the above normal temperatures, a large group of children enjoyed a hike down Churchill drive parkway to the playground where hot chocolate was eagerly sipped and then snow play enjoyed.





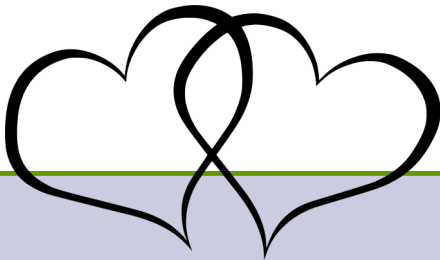
## Introduction to new staff



Sarah Al-Saadi

Hi my name is Sarah. I am originally from Baghdad, Iraq and graduated from high school in 2013. I attended the University of Bagdad, astronomy and space for two years and then came to Canada in 2015. I started working as a Child Care Assistant in 2016 at YMCA and then started at the University of Manitoba in 2017 where I am taking courses to get into Environmental design, Faculty of Architecture. I have been in the child care field for almost 3 years

now. Working in daycare feels more like having fun than just a job. I like spending time with the children's doing crafts, drawing and playing games. In my free time I like to draw, sketch, paint and spending time with my family. My goals are to attend the Environmental design program and work in the design field, learn how to skate, visit Rome and visit most of the Art galleries and monuments around the world.



## Valentines Day Raffle

Raffle update!

If you haven't already got your booklet to sell or buy tickets for the raffle, act quickly because they are selling and going fast. The draw date will be February 11th at 11am. We have 4 prizes you can win that would kick your Valentines day up a notch.

In order to make this raffle and fundraiser a success we rely on donations from families at the center. So far we have reached our needed amount of boxes of chocolate but we are still looking for a few more bottles of wine. Donations can be dropped off at either location and will be received with a grateful smile and just think. If you buy a ticket you have the chance to win back that very same bottle of wine and several more as well as chocolates. Tickets for the Valentines Day raffle are only \$2.00 each. Ask any staff when you pick of your child for your booklet or ticket today.

