

October 2021

# Lord Roberts Children's Program's

## Letter from Director

Fall 2021

If someone had told me this pandemic would have lasted this long, I am not sure I would have believed them! But here we are still making things work and still hoping that our LRCP family stays healthy and well. Over the time since March 2020 some things have changed and some things, have adapted and some things have stayed the same. For example, we are still not at full capacity due to the pandemic- we have full numbers at the SA and are down 19 children at the PS. Staff at the SA continue to work split shifts and to also support the school lunch program over the noon break. We have not returned to providing snacks (at both sites) and hot lunches at the school-age. The Province has not increased our operating grant or allowed for an increase in fees for more than 5 years and all of our costs continue to rise. One thing that has changed is that the perception that child care being an Essential Service has become apparent. To this, the Federal government has initiated steps for a national child care program and Manitoba has signed on as a partner! The details have not yet been announced but this

is a historic agreement much like when medicare came into being. I am optimistic that this will be good for families and the childcare workforce who have long been overlooked and underappreciated.

We welcome all of our new families to our centre and bid adieu to those who have left us. Each and everyone of our families is important to our team at the school-age and preschool sites and we hope you feel this everyday when leaving your children with us. Our teams work hard to ensure that there are child centered activities happening to help the children learn, learn some more and then keep learning in all developmental areas. We use a child based curriculum (pedagogy) and have a large emphasis on social emotional development at both sites as well as a lot of outdoor learning in our program. In this newsletter the team gives you some information on what they have been working on so please read on! Lastly, I just would like to remind everyone that we follow all COVID protocols in both sites. They look a little different at each site as the school has different rules than the preschool. In this, I am really saying

that we expect all our families to respect our staff as they enforce the rules we have been given by the Province, the school, the city; whether they be around wearing facemasks, COVID testing, vaccines, or having your child stay home the centre with any symptoms. We all want to get through this so please remember as part of our LRCP family we only want what is best for everyone who comes through our doors! Stay well everyone,

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## News from Sunshine Room

Welcome to the sunny Sunshine Room. Our summer has been filled with lots of fun activities through out the neighborhood. We also visited a few different parks, and a splash pad to keep us cool. Now that the summer holidays are over, the group leaders have been busy getting ready, doing activities for the children in their groups. Our new group lists will be posted soon on the bulletin board in front of the office. If you are unsure of which group your child is in, please ask one of our staff, and they will be more than happy to help you.

### FAMILY PICTURES...

We are in the process of updating our family picture wall. If you would like your family picture on the wall, please bring one in to preschool or email us at [info@lordroberts.org](mailto:info@lordroberts.org).



### Mary from The Scooby Doo's

I would like to welcome my new Scooby Doo friends, Nixon, Kai and Zackary! We started circle time late in September. We are talking about, "Every Child Matters!" Vivian, one of our continuing Scooby doo's says, "I am important!" We have been going outside mornings to climb, jump, run and explore. Ladybugs and ants are awesome but not the wasps. The children are using their small and large muscles at this time. They are measuring, pouring and dumping sand. They make soup and birthday cake. They make me onion cakes and offer it to me as a way of joking with me knowing my dislike of onions. The Scooby Doo group will do circle time and learn

from the children's interests. During the summer of 2021, I took out activities to do outside. Craft materials, bubbles and chalk were offered. We beaded with pony beads using their fine motor skills. We were creative using permanent markers on photo paper. Some pictures were used in a child's photo album who was leaving the Centre. Magnifying glasses, mini dinosaurs, poppori balls, mesh baskets and spray bottles were brought outside for the children's use. Overall the children had a great summer!



### Mayling from The Lady Bugs

We have had a wonderful summer.

Playing outside side doing pedagogy with the children.

### Nature:

- children smell flowers.
- feel the breeze.
- watching earth worms and bugs
- curiosity.
- learning about the natural world.
- Ex: 1) Ladybugs: examining color, how it moves, count it's dots
- Ex: 2) Flowers: pull on a petal, learning about its texture, how is a flower put together.

### Back To School:

- our friends.
- our name.
- street safety.
- school bus safety.
- backpack.
- getting dressed for school



### Sayuri from The Bumble Bees

We spent outside a lot, going to several parks and field trips this summer! There were a few fun plays and learning I wanted to share with parents. During hot days, we took out some water in a bucket, made a sand

castle and a garden for the bee! Children were squeezing sand in the mold, scooping water before transferring it to the sand box (developing small muscles) and planning how to design the garden with the twigs and leaves (developing engineering skills). It was very interesting to observe how they expanded their play with single child play to a group play. On a windy day, we took out plastic bags, tying strings to them and ran around the park and the field because they became great balloons! They chased after them, laughing a lot (developing big muscles). Some children learned how to swing by lifting one leg by themselves and they looked so proud of themselves. From this month, bumble bees will learn about seasons, events, letters, numbers, colors and more in a circle time. I cannot wait to see how they would develop skills and grow! (Sayuri)



### Natalia from The Butterflies

The butterflies have new friends who joined our group! Warm weather is still with us, although chilly mornings remind us of coming fall that will soon change to the cold days. We're exploring the nature changes, collecting leaves while enjoying their fantastic colors. It's a good practice to remember the colors that some of us already know as well as to help our little new friends learn them.

We are still taking advantage of a warm afternoon and encourage our friends to join us and play at the park structure together.

We are learning to be a team when cleaning our toys and assisting our new friends to explore their new room. In coming October we will be doing lots of crafts, reading plenty of amazing stories, and will make friends with different shapes that surround us in the room.

### SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB

We are pleased to announce the return of the Scholastic Book Club. Date to be announce.

### A NOTE FOR SCHOOL FRIENDS – OUR SCHOOL ROUTINE

7:15-8:15 am - Small snack/breakfast if the child has one

8:15-8:30 am – Bathroom Time

8:30-8:40 am – Dress and leave to go to school

**Please note during the winter, we start getting ready earlier and leave no later than 8:35 am.**

**\*\*\*IF YOU BRING YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL, YOU MUST STAY WITH THEM UNTIL THE SCHOOL TEACHER COMES FOR YOUR CHILD.\*\***

## News from The Rainbow Room

We had a great summer in rainbow room. We enjoyed the nice west and went on some walks and visited a few different parks. On really hot days we sometimes had fun cooling off in the sprinkler in the courtyard.

As the weather is staying warm we are trying to spend as much time outdoors as possible. Let's hope for a lot of more beautiful fall days.

During summer we been keeping up with painting and crafts.

In rainbow room we love to read and listen to stories. Right now some of our favorite stories are Little Lion loves to share and Little monkey calms down.

We are very happy to welcome Ashley to the rainbow room. The children are enjoying getting to know her.

We would also like to welcome our new children and families joining us.

We hope you all had a wonderful summer.



## Introduction to our New Staff Members

**HELLO**  
my name is

**Ashley  
Sleva**

My name is Ashley Sleva. I am an ECE 2. I graduated in Early Childhood Education work place program at Red River College in 2016. I have 11 years experience in childcare field. I was born in Winnipeg on June 13th 1986. I have 3 sisters and 2 brothers. I am married to my best friend Justin, We

have been together for 15 years and married for 6 of those years. We have a dog named Bailey who is 13 years old. She entered our family in September of 2008 when she was 6 months old. In my spare time I love to go on walks with Bailey and bake. In the summertime I love to go camping. I am excited to have the opportunity to work in great program who supports the local community and working with new coworkers to exchange new ideas.



## News from School Age

# Who's Hungry?

## Older Cohort

How incredibly tempting is a big huge puddle first thing in the morning when you step outside? The answer is VERY. Usually puddles are fair game, with of course the appropriate clothing, but when you don't come equipped with rubber boots that big tempting body of water is almost too much to resist.

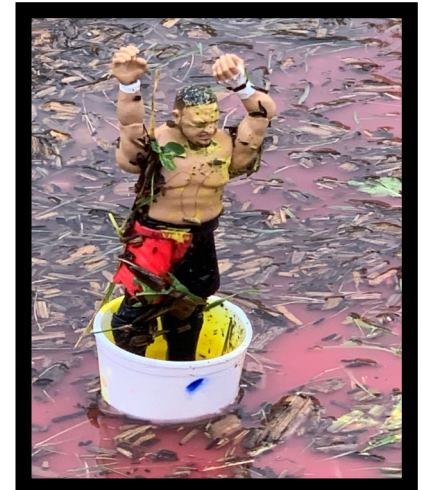
Two of the boys couldn't help but be drawn to it. They were circling it as if wondering what they could do. Then it happened. A toy wrestler came flying across the playground and landed with a huge splash right in the middle of the puddle. The temptation grew and was now a mission of how to get the wrestler out. The boys noticed an old broken bubble wand near by. It was the perfect object to use to "fish" the wrestler out. It worked and now not only was there an enticing puddle, there was a stirring spoon.

They started gathering grass and wood chips and tossing it in to the puddle, stirring as they go. Of course the wrestlers had to be added to this marvelous concoction that they then so lovingly named "Wrestler Stew".



They were quite pleased with their delectable dish but something was missing. It needed a splash of color. I suggested food coloring so they ran inside all excited. I waited in anticipation to see what they would come back with which turned out to be nothing. Apparently we had no food coloring left. Then across the radio came a voice saying "What about tempera paint?". Their eyes grew in size and asked excitedly "Can we...can we?" Before I got out my full sentence of agreement they were half way to the door. Out they came with red, blue and yellow. String and mixing. The small cups used for transporting the paint were the perfect serving dish or life raft if you are a 6 inch wrestler.

What turned out to be a moment of disappointment became an exploration of color, textures, movement and a great source of imaginative play.



*No wrestlers were harmed in the making of this stew and all had a proper bath before joining their friends back in the daycare bin.*



## News from School Age—continued

# Any Weather is Play Weather

### Younger Cohort

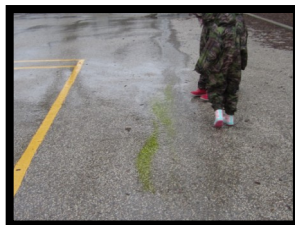
Any weather is play weather, just need to dress for it. With the kindergarten group we are fortunate to have muddy buddies to wear so we are able to enjoy our rainy days. Locating puddles deep enough to jump and splash became a search mission. A closer look at the rain leads to more discoveries.



The rain drops made dots on the grass. We also discovered that you can wash your hands with all those rain drops in the grass and if your hands are wet they do get cold.



Before the splashing begins we examined how the rain fell into the puddles causing bubbles to form. We found streams of water on our playground hard top. Wonder where it goes? We used food coloring and added it



to the water. It lead us to the sewer grate.

Our senses were activated. Feeling the rain over our boots, the sound of the water falling into the drain, watching as the green dyed water rushed into the drain.

Our rain play in the afternoon continued to McKittrick Park. We enjoyed the swings and discovered that the pole was super slippery to slide down. Is it as rainy in the woods as on the playground? We went to explore that question. As our exploration led us through the trees, the sound of thunder alerted us that our rainy play was over and we made our way



back to the daycare.

Through sunshine, rain shower, wind and soon snow play takes on a whole new dimension. With questions to ask and exploration to occur learning has been born.

So before you head out to drop your child off at daycare, check the sky and be prepared for your childs adventures outside to be enriched in all kinds of weather.

*"There's no such thing as bad weather, only unsuitable clothing"* - **Alfred Wainwright** (1973 Book "Coast to Coast")

## What should I do if my child is sick?



Students should stay home from school if they are sick, no matter how mild the symptoms.

**If anyone in your household is symptomatic, the entire household must self-isolate.**

If a student displays any symptom of illness while at school, they will be isolated and their parent/guardian will be contacted to pick them up.



If your child has one symptom from Column A, they should get tested for COVID-19.

If your child has two symptoms from Column B, they should get tested for COVID-19.

If your child has only one symptom from Column B, they should stay home. They may only return to school once they are symptom-free for 24 hours.

### Column A

Do you have a new onset, or worsening, of any ONE of the following symptoms?

- Fever > 38°C or think you have a fever or chills
- Cough
- Sore throat/hoarse voice
- Shortness of breath/breathing difficulties
- Loss of taste or smell
- Vomiting or diarrhea for more than 24 hours

### Column B

Do you have a new onset, or worsening, of any TWO of the following symptoms?

- Runny nose
- Muscle aches
- Fatigue
- Conjunctivitis (pink eye)
- Headache
- Skin rash of unknown cause
- Nausea or loss of appetite
- Poor feeding (if an infant)

## When can my child return to school?

If your child gets tested for COVID-19 and is:



**NEGATIVE:** They can return to school after 24 hours of being symptom-free.



**POSITIVE:** Public Health will provide guidance regarding what is required before your child can return to school.

**If the COVID-19 Screening Tool recommends your child should get tested for COVID-19 and you decide not to:**

Your child must self-isolate for 10 days from symptom onset, and until they no longer have symptoms for 24 hours. This means that the student can return to school on the eleventh day from symptom onset as long as they have been symptom free for 24 hours.

