

Dalhousie Kindergarten Newsletter

- September 2015

Welcome Parents!

Welcome to another fun-filled year of learning and exploration at Dalhousie Community Kindergarten. Clair, Destiny and I all look forward to getting to know you and your children throughout this exciting school year.

We have many fun things planned and always welcome your input into the program. Our first **Parent Council meeting is coming up on Monday, September 14 at 7:00 pm**. We are still looking to fill a few key roles and invite all parents to join us – whether they want to take on a role or not. Among other things, the Parent Council oversees a budget and makes decisions on direct spending for programs and events for your kids! Come check us out!

I always welcome your questions and can be reached Monday and Wednesday mornings or at dcakids@telus.net.

- Catherine

Class Information:

TIME: 9:00-11:50AM

PHONE: 403-288-1050

TEACHER: CLAIR BROWN

ADMIN: CATHERINE SPACKMAN

MORE INFO: www.dcakids.com

Volunteers Needed

Library Parent

Mrs. Brown is looking for a volunteer to be our "Library Parent". This person / family would be given a list of books (which they will need to put on hold at the Calgary Public Library) to pick up about once a month. Please talk to her if you are interested in helping out.

Scholastic Book Order Administrator

Help us bring back the Scholastic Book Order program by volunteering to help co-ordinate and tally up the orders that are placed.

Safety City Field Trip

We will be going by bus and will need some parent volunteers – Permission slips will be sent home soon.

In Class Volunteers

For the month of September, there will be no in-class volunteers. This allows time for the teacher to establish routines with the children and interact with each other. Volunteering will start in October and a sign-up calendar will be placed on the bulletin board outside of the classroom. Your child really values you coming into the class so please try to find time this school year to spend a morning or two (or more!) in the class.

Save the Date!

Sept 14 - 7pm Parent Council Meeting

Sept 23 - Fieldtrip to Safety City*

Sept 24 - Evening Open House
(more info coming home soon)

Oct 2 - No School

Oct 22 & 23 – Casino Fundraising*

*Volunteers needed

Color Days (info to follow)

Sept 15 – Red

Sept 18 – Yellow

Sept 22 – Blue

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



Connor
Madison
Gracie



The ABC's - what you need to know for the classroom:

- ☑ Regular attendance and punctuality are important. Please have your child arrive no more than 5 minutes before class and ensure that they are picked up promptly after class.
- ☑ If your child cannot attend on any one day, please contact the school at 403-288-1050, no later than 15 minutes prior to class. Your call will save valuable class time locating "late" arrivals.
- ☑ Children bring in their own snacks. Please do not send snacks containing nuts, peanuts or traces of nuts. Please read food packages carefully! Send mess-free snacks -no yogurt tubes or popcorn please. For Out of School children, please pack a separate snack from the lunch they will eat downstairs later. Large lunch kits will not fit in the kids' mailboxes so please send a separate snack in a smaller bag.
- ☑ Have your child dressed in appropriate play clothes. Label coats, shoes, backpacks, mitts, etc. Mabel's Labels (see below) are perfect for this.
- ☑ The class may play outdoors when the temperature is above -15. All children must come out; there is no staff to stay in with individuals.
- ☑ Your child will require a school bag for bringing home their works of art and school notices.
- ☑ Birthday party invitations should be delivered outside of school to avoid hurt feelings.
- ☑ Sick children should not be sent to school - they feel better in their home environment. If your child has a fever or chicken pox, please DO NOT send them to school. Note that school staff does not administer medication.
- ☑ For safety, please inform the school if your child is going home with someone else.
- ☑ If you wish to talk to the teacher, she is available after class. Before class she is focused on the children.
- ☑ Parent-teacher interviews are held in November and March for Kindergarten students and January for JK Students. Any questions regarding program administration can be answered by Catherine.

Casino Fundraising

Our most significant fundraiser for the year is coming up quickly in October. In the span of two days we are able to raise a significant amount of money that directly impacts the success of our program and the many enhancements we are thrilled to offer.

Our Kindergarten will be supplying volunteers to work at the Elbow River Casino on **Thursday, October 22 and Friday, October 23, 2015**. It is expected that each current family supply **at least one volunteer** to staff the shifts. It would be even better if you could supply a couple of volunteers – bring a friend to work the same shift as you! If you are unable to volunteer, please consider asking spouses, grandparents and friends for this very worthwhile endeavor.

Each of the casino positions are very easy to perform and training is provided on site so no previous experience is required. Great meals are provided during your shift and **expenses for child care and taxi cabs will be reimbursed if required**. You will be receiving an email soon with sign-up information. Please help our program with very important fundraiser by replying promptly.

Label it!

Parents – everything you send to our school must be labeled with your child's name on it and we have discovered a great way to make this extremely easy – AND raise a few dollars for the Kindergarten at the same time.

Mabel's Labels are a fantastic, personalized product that you can order online and in turn, the Kindergarten receives a portion of the sales. Our fundraising campaign has been extended to September 30th so please check out the following link to place your order: <http://campaigns.mabelslabels.com> - be sure to **select or mention in your email order that your order is supporting *Dalhousie Community Kindergarten***.

Field Trips

Several field trips are planned for our program year. Information and consent forms will be sent home with your child approximately one week PRIOR to the outings. These forms must be SIGNED and returned to class BEFORE the trip in order for your child to participate. The Parents Program Coordinator will confirm which parents are assisting with each field trip. Some field trips require a nominal fee.

Field Trip Volunteer responsibilities:

- Please arrive at school on time. You will be given a group of children to supervise.
- On some school tours, there will be a presenter talking to the whole group or the whole group may move from one area to another. At these times you can relax supervision somewhat, but please remain alert to any child who may have forgotten rules or manners.
- As much as possible, leave the teacher free to observe the whole group and select the discipline measure she chooses.
- Siblings cannot be accommodated on most field trips

Important Field Trip Regulations for Children Under 40 Pounds:

Smaller children are legally required to be in an anchored car seat. The school has only boosters to lend - NO car seats.

In order for these children to participate in field trips, parents of children who are not yet 40 pounds must ensure that arrangements are made. Your options are:

1. Be at school early enough that you can transfer your car seat into the designated driver's vehicle. Never leave your child until this job is complete.
2. If your car seat is not easily transferable, then arrange your own child's transportation to and from the event. Inform Mrs. Brown the day before if such arrangements have been made.

We want each child to be able to participate as fully as possible in our enriching field trips and lessons, yet safety is paramount. Although there are occasionally volunteer drivers who do have an installed car seat available, we cannot guarantee one at any given time; therefore it is incumbent on parents to be prepared.

Thanks for your cooperation.

Have a great year!



September 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8 School Starts!	9 School Starts!	10	11	12
13	14 Parent Council Meeting - 7pm	15 Color Day: Red	16	17	18 Color Day: Yellow	19
20	21	22 Color Day: Blue	23 Field Trip: Safety City	24 Evening Open House	25	26
27	28	29	30 Mabels Labels Order Deadline	Oct 1	Oct 2 No School	

Notes:

Themes this month:

- Colors & Shapes
- Safety
- Fall (Autumn)

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Birthdays:



Conner, Madison & Gracie

