

Save the Date!

- Feb 3, 10 – Skating lessons continue
- Feb 5, 17 – Outdoor skating (weather permitting)
- Feb 8 – Parent Council @ 7pm
- Feb 9, 23 – Music lessons
- Feb 11 - Valentine Exchange in class
- Feb 12, Feb 15 – No School
- March 1, 3, 8, 10, 15, 17 – Swimming Lessons



Volunteers Needed!

Swimming Lessons – Parent Drivers

We need parent drivers to take children to and from lessons and to assist once there. If we do not get enough volunteer drivers, we will not be able to run these lessons and the kids will not benefit from these unique program experiences. **Please advise Catherine if you or a family member can help with any part of:**

- ✓ Tuesdays and Thursdays – March 1, 3, 8, 10, 15 and 17.
 - **Volunteers are also needed in the change rooms** – are there any Dads or Grandpas that can make these dates to help the boys out?

Outdoor Skating – Parents Helpers

Outdoor Skating – weather dependant for the last 35 minutes of class on **Friday February 5 and Wednesday February 17.**

- ✓ We will need parent volunteers to come at about 11:10 to help lace skates and get the kids on the ice. Please let Clair know if you are able to help. Skating on February 17th will be especially fun as we welcome our big friends from HD Cartwright to skate with us.

In Class Volunteers

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 more!) in the class.





Kindergarten Google Calendar...

Is now on our website (dcakids.com). If you want to subscribe to it in Google Calendar and stay up to date, simply:

1. Log into your google account and go to the Calendar App
2. On the left-hand sidebar where it says "Other Calendars" there is a box that says "Add a friend's calendar"
3. In that box type in Calendar@dcakids.com; It will then show up under that box as Dalhousie Kindergarten.
4. If you click on the arrow to the right of the title, they can access the settings for the calendar, and can choose if you want it to show on your main calendar, what color the events will show as, etc.

Bottle Drive Update

Big thanks to all that brought their bottles in and to the Palaschuk family for their efforts at our recent bottle drive.

We haven't received our payment yet from Vecova but families were very generous with their donations so it should be great! Funds raised will go straight back into programs for the kids.



Skating Lessons – reminder

Lessons will be held at the Brentwood Sportsplex (leaving the school at 9:15 am). Please remember to pack your child's helmet and skates along with a warm sweater and snow pants. If your child is under 40 pounds, they must be transported in an anchored car seat.





TEACHER'S CORNER



January was a great beginning to a new year. During the 'Winter' theme, the children had lots of fun; sledding and skating and playing in the snow. Through stories, science activities, and outdoor play they have explored ice, freezing, melting, and sliding. Our skating lessons have begun, and the children are learning quickly. Style and confidence have both improved already. A huge THANK YOU goes to all the Moms and Dads who are driving, lacing, organizing and encouraging for lessons. We are working on arranging an outdoor skating party behind the Community Center, after the lessons are concluded, on February 17. We hope to have some buddies from HD Cartwright junior high school join us. Don't forget to send skates to school on that day. Any parents who would like to provide special snacks that day please talk to me, or leave a note on top of the mailboxes. We do love to eat! Please note that for all shared snacks, we do not allow nuts or peanuts.

The theme for February will be FRIENDS AND FANTASY. Talking about Friendship helps the children to think more objectively about their own social relations and skills, and hopefully to extend their friendships within the class. We will talk about feelings, and how our actions affect the feelings of others. We'll discuss bullying, and how to help if we see it happening. With the Fantasy aspect of this theme, which includes all those magical things like fairies, dragons, castles, knights, queens and princes, we will have lots of fun exercising our imaginations. After Fantasy, we begin our unit on Dinosaurs, always a real favorite and highly motivating for Kindergarten kids.



As a part of our Friends theme, there will be an exchange of Valentines on Thursday February 11. This event is purposely low key - a simple card or home-made note is fine. If any parents can stay a few minutes in the morning to help us find the right mailboxes, that would be very helpful.



Throughout February, we will continue to develop skills of sequencing (placing items or events in order), patterning (repetition of a sequence), and making sets (counting a group of objects and matching it to a number). We will continue to practice letter formation and letter sounds, do lots of phonemic awareness activities, and work on number recognition and formation. The kids have been telling me their addresses, and a little review at home would be helpful.

(ctd...)

The curriculum information given in the "Teacher's Corner" is necessarily somewhat general. For example, though I can say we are studying the letters and sounds, I do not tell you specifically which letters. If you would like more specific information, please have a look at the teacher's long-range plans, which are posted in the classroom. Read the reminder note on the door at pick-up and drop-off times, or ask the person doing the driving to make notes. Resist taking too much responsibility for knowing the letter, since ideally children should remember it themselves.



Thanks parents, to all who have helped in any way. I remind you that parents and friends are always welcomed by teacher and children alike. If you have any ideas for special projects, crafts, or story sharing you would like to become involved in, speak to us. Such participation enriches our program. Keep an eye on the themes, and see what you have in your bag of tricks that might fit in! Don't forget to bring your camera on your helper day, and send us a few shots of the kids for the yearbook. If you give me a few selected printed photos, they will be admired by all during book sharing time, and then they will be distributed and placed in the children's scrapbooks to take home at year-end.

~ Clair



FEBRUARY 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3 Skating Lessons	4	5 Outdoor Skating (weather permitting)	6
7	8 Parent Council @7pm	9 Music Lessons	10 Skating Lessons	11 Valentine Exchange in class	12 No School	13
14 HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY	15 FAMILY DAY No School	16	17 Outdoor Skating (weather permitting)	18	19	20
21	22	23 Music Lessons	24	25	26	27
28	29	MAR 1 Swim Lessons	MAR 2	MAR 3 Swim Lessons	MAR 4	MAR 5

Notes:

Themes this month:

- Friends & Fantasy

Class Info:

- TIME: 9:00-11:50AM
- PHONE: 403-288-1050
- TEACHER: CLAIR BROWN
- ADMIN: CATHERINE SPACKMAN
- MORE INFO: www.dcakids.com

Birthdays:



Kaden