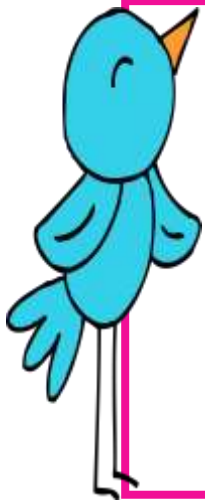


Dalhousie Kindergarten Newsletter

- APRIL 2016



Save the Date!

- April 1 – Mad Science (In-Class)
- April 4 – Bottle drive (bring your bottles!)
- April 6, 8, 14 – Community helpers visits (In-class)
- April 11 – Parent Council @ 7pm
- April 13 – Clay for kids – Dads/Grandpas needed!
- April 20 – Climbing wall field trip
- April 25 – No School
- May 6 – Mothers day tea @10.30am – Moms invited!
- June 11 – Year-end Family picnic



**HAPPY
BIRTHDAY!**

Arya



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Upcoming special project & Dads/Grandpas needed

On Wednesday, April 13, starting at 9:30 the kids will be joined by “Clay for Kids” to work on a very special top secret project! **If you know ahead of time that your child will be away that day, please let Clair know.** It would also be really great if we could get some Dads or Grandpas to help with the project that morning. Please let us know if you can help.



We want your bottles one last time!

The bottle drive is the morning of Monday April 4. Bottles will be collected at the school. Our last bottle drive helped raise \$210, which subsidized the climbing wall fieldtrip for our kids this month and we know this last one will help contribute to unique experiences for our kids through to the end of the year. Please bring your bottles as well as those from

Climbing wall fieldtrip

The kids will be going to the Climbing Wall at the University of Calgary on Wednesday, April 20. Thanks to fundraising efforts from the bottle drive in January, this bussed fieldtrip will be highly subsidized and will cost \$10 per child. Watch for more info and





Mothers day tea – you're invited Mom!

Moms, mark your calendars now for this very special event where the students will pamper their Moms! It will be on Friday, May 6 starting at 10:30. We hope to see you there.

Volunteers needed & your deposit

In September, each family provide a \$50 volunteer deposit to be returned upon completion of a required duty.

The last two opportunities will be assisting with our Regular Inventory of the classroom which will happen on **Saturday May 28 at 10:00** and will last a couple of hours. The second opportunity will be the Classroom Cleanup which will be on **Friday June 17 starting at 10:00**. If your family has not already completed their volunteer duties, please check your availability for one of these two events. Your \$50 will be returned upon completion. Catherine will coordinate volunteers closer to the dates.



Year end family picnic

Celebrate the end of the Kindergarten and all the special friendships made by coming together at our Year End Family Picnic. It is slated for **Saturday June 11**. We will need help with this special event (Food coordination, family activities, clean-up crews, etc) so watch for more information to come home.

TEACHER'S CORNER

March has been another great month. The kids are really thinking about what they learn, and becoming more self-directed in their discoveries.

With the upcoming 'Community Helpers' theme, we will open up the 'hospital' center, and an amazing number of illnesses will be cured with the careful attention of the resident doctors. We will have an official visit from a firefighter and our community liaison police officer. We will have a visit from one of the two Moms who are nurses: Fiona Davies, to find out some true facts about hospitals and health care. In addition, Clay for Kids will teach us to make a fused glass piece; and Mad Science will wind up our dinosaur unit with a visit to show us some awesome dinosaur science.



The class will continue practice with letter and number identification and formation, letter sounds, sequencing, categorizing, and counting. The vowels are the last of our letter of the week program. After they are discussed, we will begin a program of reading a "Morning Message" each day. Through it the children will begin to look at common patterns in words, common beginnings and endings for words, some handy sight words, and predicting in reading. Their writing practice will be done in journals, with pencil and paper rather than chalk. I encourage kids to make a note at home about any special events, then share the news from their journals. Often deciding what to write about is the hardest part, so your help in choosing this at home will enhance the process. You can

provide a paper with the spelling of one or two key words. Please do NOT send a whole paragraph of news for them to transcribe. It reduces their learning if they do not need to figure out anything for themselves. Sounding out is encouraged, so if your child is ready to try this, don't be too meticulous about spelling. Invented spellings are the first step toward getting ideas on paper. If you can arrange to stay for a few minutes in the morning, you can be a big help.

In April we will begin the 'Spring' theme. We will talk about bugs, butterfly life cycles, rain and growing things. Watch for the arrival of caterpillars, which we will feed and nurture until they become butterflies! Then early next month, we hope to bring in some ready-to-hatch duck eggs. This is a wonderfully exciting and memorable learning experience, and even the teacher learns something new each year.



Here is a small heads-up for those working Moms: you may want to arrange an hour off work on Friday May 6, from about 10:45-11:45. The kids will present some Mother's Day entertainment, serve you tea, and give you their specially made gift. We have been told it is too cute to miss!

Remember to sign up for a day to help in the classroom. It really is meaningful to your child to have you there. Even if there are not any materials preparation jobs listed, it is very worthwhile to have parents visit. It is an opportunity for your child to feel special.

Since there are no further formal parent-teacher interviews scheduled, I urge you to talk to me any time if you have questions or concerns, or if there is a change in your child that you think I should know about. Happy spring!

~Clair



APRIL 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 In-Class Mad Science	2
3	4 Bottle Drive (Bring your bottles!)	5	6 Fireman visit	7	8 Policeman visit	9
10	11	12 Music class	13 Clay for kids project	14 Nurse Fiona visit	15	16
17	18	19	20 Climbing wall field trip	21	22	23
24	25 No School	26 Music class	27	28	29	30

Notes:

Themes this month:

- Community helpers
- Spring

Class Info:

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

Birthdays:



Arya