

# Dalhousie Kindergarten Newsletter

- MARCH 2016

## Save the Date!

March 1, 3, 8, 10, 15, 17 – Swimming Lessons

Mar 4, 11 – No School

Mar 7 – Parent Council @ 7pm

Mar 17 – Kindergarten P-T Interview (evening)

Mar 18 – Kindergarten P-T Interview (Morning)

Mar 18 – Mar 28 – Spring Break (No School)

Mar 29 – Classes Resume

April 1 – Mad Science (In-Class)



**HAPPY  
BIRTHDAY!**

Aria

## Kindergarten Parent-Teacher Interviews

Kindergarten Parent Teacher interviews will be held the evening of March 17 and the morning of March 18. Kindergarten families - watch for more information coming home to set up a meeting time.



## Swimming Lessons – reminder

Swimming lessons - go for the month of March on Tuesdays and Thursdays ---  
March 1, 3, 8, 10, 15 and 17 at the Sir Winston Churchill Pool.  
Thanks in advance to all volunteers that are able to help

## Registration Update

Our class is full for next year but we are accepting registrations to join our waitlist. If you know any families still considering their Kindergarten options for next year, tell them to get in contact with us.

## Casino Update

**Casino Money is in!** Because of everyone's valuable time contribution at our Casino in October, we were able to raise over **\$72,000** for our program!

This money goes directly into the classroom and maintaining the high level of programming we offer. It allows us to provide many program enrichments such as bussed fieldtrips, special in-class presentations, and Miss Destiny!

Our heartfelt thanks to everyone again that was able to make this fundraiser a huge success.



## TEACHER'S CORNER



February is a short month, but it was packed with action and excitement for the class. Thanks to parents who provided help and special snacks for our Valentine party, and for outdoor skating with HD Cartwright students. That event was full of community spirit. The kids now have some friends across the parking lot to say hi to. Skating lessons involved excellent instruction from our two coaches, and the kids progressed amazingly. They finished lessons feeling very proud of the new skills learned. Even the tentative skaters worked hard and grew in confidence!

In March we begin to talk about Dinosaurs - always a real favorite and highly motivating for Kindergarten kids. I am a bit of a rock hound myself, in the summer months, and I will share some of my finds too. If your child comes home with a real fossil, it is legitimate. The laws are that people can collect what is eroded out to the surface on crown land, the fossils can be taken home, and they can be given away but not sold. They are technically still the property of the province, and the collector is acting as custodian. In this way, the children are helping to prevent our provincial treasures from eroding away to nothing.



**PROPERTY OF:**

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In March, we are doing swimming classes on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Remember to send children to school with their swimsuit on under their clothes, and with a towel and underwear in a bag for after the lesson. **EVERYTHING MUST HAVE A NAME LABEL!!** Yes, towels too, and bags, and underwear, and suits! Thanks to all of you who have arranged your busy schedules to help us transport the children to this important set of lessons. There is nothing like learning together with friends to motivate children, and we could not do it without drivers and helpers.

With the high need for drivers to our lessons in February and March, there has been a reduction in the number of parents able to come in to class as volunteers. Be prepared to see what you can do after spring break. There are some awesome projects that I will not undertake without help. Most important though, it is VERY valuable for children to see their family at their school. To them it emphasizes that school is important to the people closest to them. Remember, we also like to have Grandmas, babysitters, Grandpas and Dads. Come and have fun with us! When you are in the classroom, be sure to look at some of the stories that were developed by the kids during collaborative play sessions. There are some in the blocks, story corner, and dress-up areas. The stories show just how much language development, teamwork, and creative imagination these kids have. Fun to read, too!



## Notes on Curriculum Strategies



In keeping with the Kindergarten philosophy, all of the concepts and learning skills introduced in the classroom are developed through more than one activity or center, so please do not worry if your child does not bring something home that a friend did. It is not likely that he or she "missed out" on any necessary skills. Your child has practiced the same skills in a different manner. Remember, many of our activities or creations cannot be carried home. If you are curious, take a look at your booklet entitled "Why We Do What We Do". In the descriptions of the centers you will find many areas that overlap. For example:

~ Math concepts of size, measurement, adding, geometry, patterning and counting are learned in the blocks, puzzles, math, sand, water and games centers as well as direct teaching.

~ A varied language background, experience with different forms of language use, familiarity with story-telling patterns, increased vocabulary, phonemic awareness, and love of language can be promoted in centers such as dress-up, listening, puppets, story corner, Lego, Playmobil, painting, blocks and writing.

~ Social skills are developed at every center as children work together and share ideas and materials. The playground time is a great source for independent social development.

~ Physical skills are practiced at the blocks, crafts, water, sand, writing, outdoors, skating, swimming, with fidget tools, and in the 'gym'.

~ Creative expression often occurs at painting, crafts, writing, blocks, puppets, sand, dress-up, Playmobil and story corner.

~ Even if a child were to stay in the blocks center for a month, she/he would be learning and benefitting in every area of curriculum skills!

The above list refers to the skills most often seen at various centers. Keep in mind that, though I monitor and evaluate the learning the children do at centers, I would like every child to develop at their own pace, making their own educational choices and experiencing success in what they do. Beyond centers there is a lot of learning happening during discussion times, story time, writing practise, journal time, show and tell, music classes, and outside lessons. Young children learn best when they are using all their senses and a good mix of learning styles. I endeavor to provide a rich variety of forms of play and learning appropriate to their developmental level so that they may have a rewarding experience and a positive attitude toward education.

~ Clair



# MARCH 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Swimming Lessons	2	3 Swimming Lessons	4 <b>No School</b>	5
6	7 Parent Council @7pm	8 Swimming Lessons	9 Music Class	10 Swimming Lessons	11 <b>No School</b>	12
13	14	15 Swimming Lessons	16	17 Swimming Lessons  Kindergarten P-T Interviews (evening)	18 <b>Spring Break No School</b>  Kindergarten P-T Interviews (morning)	19
20	21 <b>Spring Break No School</b>	22 <b>Spring Break No School</b>	23 <b>Spring Break No School</b>	24 <b>Spring Break No School</b>	25 <b>Spring Break No School</b>	26
27	28 <b>Spring Break No School</b>	29 <b>Classes Resume</b>  Music Class	30	31	APRIL 1 In-Class Mad Science	APRIL 2

Notes:

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Themes this month:

- Dinosaurs

Class Info:

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

Birthdays:



Aria