

## 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 12** at 7:00 p.m. 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](mailto:dcakids@telus.net).

- Catherine

## Class Information:

**Time: 9 – 11:50 a.m.**

**Phone: 403-288-1050**

**Teacher: Clair Brown**

**Administrator: Catherine Spackman**

[www.dcakids.com](http://www.dcakids.com)

## Important dates for September:

- Sept 12, 7 p.m.: Parent Council meeting in the Kindergarten room – ALL parents welcome!
- Sept. 13: Red Day\*
- Sept. 15: Yellow Day\*
- Sept 21: Safety City field trip\*
- Sept. 20: Blue Day\*
- Sept. 29: Family pizza dinner and open house\*
- Sept. 30: No school  
(\*More info coming soon)

*Themes for this month are:*

*Colours and Shapes, Safety and Fall*

## Mabel's Labels

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. Please go to [www.mabelslabels.com](http://www.mabelslabels.com) and select Dalhousie Community Kindergarten after selecting the "Support a Fundraiser" button on the right hand side.

## Volunteer Needed

Mrs. Brown is looking for a volunteer to be our "Library Parent". This person/family is given a list of books (that have been 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.



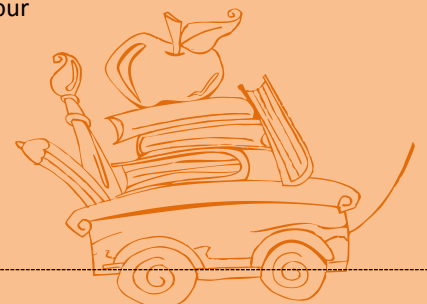
### What You Need to Know About Our Classroom:

- ✓ 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 peanuts, nuts 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 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.



### 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 begin 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.



### 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

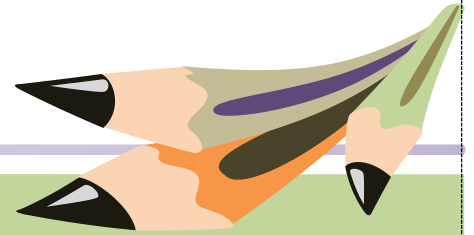
### Important field trip regulations for children under 40 pounds:

Children who weigh less than 40 pounds 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.

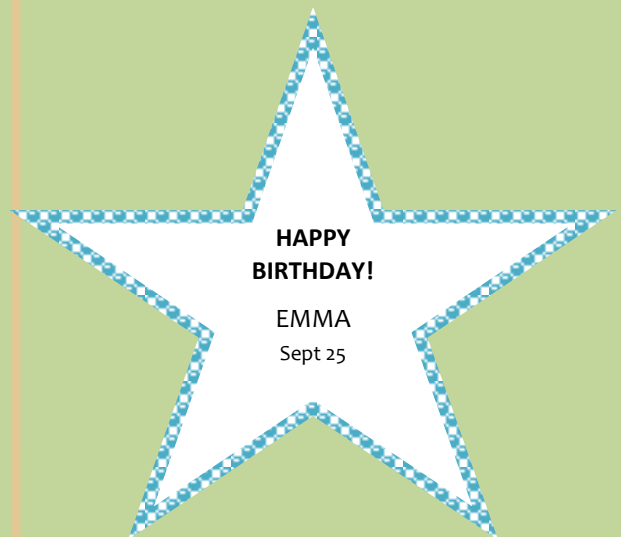


### Website and Google Calendar

The kindergarten website can be found at [www.dcakids.com](http://www.dcakids.com) and has many great resources including calendars, newsletters and stories about current "happenings". Please visit our site on a regular basis. Parents you can also sync the Kindergarten's google calendar with yours by doing the following:

- Log into your google account and go to the Calendar App
- On the left hand sidebar where it says "Other Calendars" there is a box that says "Add a friend's calendar"
- In that box type in [Calendar@dcakids.com](mailto:Calendar@dcakids.com)

It will then show up under that box as Dalhousie Kindergarten. If you click on the arrow to the right of the title, you 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.



# SEPTEMBER 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5	6 School Begins!	7 School Begins!	8	9	10
11	12 Parent Council Meeting 7 p.m., Kindergarten room	13 <b>Colour Day: RED</b>	14	15 <b>Colour Day: YELLOW</b>	16	17
18	19	20 <b>Colour Day: BLUE</b>	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29 Open House & Family Pizza Night	30 <b>NO SCHOOL</b>	

Notes:

Themes this month:

- Colours and Shapes
- Safety
- Fall (Autumn)

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