



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. They are working as a great team - accepting, supporting and helping each other and respecting differences.

With the upcoming 'Community Helpers' theme, we will open the 'hospital' center, and an amazing number of illnesses will be cured with the careful attention of the resident doctors. We are planning a visit to Ailish's Dad's fire station in Bearspaw to learn more about some real heroes. We will have a pilot fly in for a special visit - Victoria's Uncle Rob. We will be visited by a Mom who is a nurse, Fiona Davies, and 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 HD Cartwright junior high kids will present a Reader's Theater show to their little kindergarten buddies. All of this will occur between the days of our swimming lessons at Foothills Pool.

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. Now that they have been 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 one or two word note at home about any special events, just a wee reminder. They can then share the news when it is written in their journals. Often deciding what to write about is the hardest part, so your help in choosing this at home will enhance the process. Please do NOT send a whole sentence of news for them to transcribe. It reduces their learning if they do not need to figure out anything for themselves. One or two key words is enough.

Important dates for April:

- Apr. 4, 6, 11, 13, 18, 20 – Swim Lessons
- Apr. 7 – Top secret project!
- **Apr. 14 – No school**
- Apr. 21 – Field trip to Bearspaw Fire Hall*
- Apr. 28 – Special project with Miss Destiny

**more info to come*

Duck Eggs arrive last week of April!!!!!!

\$50 Volunteer Deposit

In September, each family provided 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 27 at 10:00** and will last a couple of hours. The second opportunity will be the Classroom Cleanup which will be on **Friday June 16 starting at 1:30**. If your family has not already completed their volunteer duties, please check your availability for one of these two events. As a lot of work needs to be accomplished in relatively short time frames, it is best if children do NOT attend. Your \$50 will be returned upon completion. Catherine will coordinate volunteers closer to the dates.

Mother's Day Tea

Mark your calendars now for this very special event where the students will pamper their Moms! It will be on Friday, May 12 starting at 10:30. We hope to see you there.



Teacher's Corner continued...

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.

Late 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 12, from about 10:45-11:45. The kids will present some Mother's Day entertainment, serve you snacks, 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, grandparents, aunts or uncles visit. It is an opportunity for your child to feel special, and impresses the value of education.

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



Mrs. Brown's Retirement Picnic

An email was recently sent about our upcoming very special event celebrating Mrs. Brown's retirement after 27 years of teaching at the Dalhousie Community Kindergarten. It will be on Saturday June 3 at Bowness Park and we really hope to see everyone there. To help in our planning, if you haven't done so already, please access the following google link and complete the online form at <https://goo.gl/forms/1KOPhXyMYiOnlg2x1>.

On April 7, beginning at 9:30, the kids will be joined by "Clay for Kids" to work on a very special top secret project! We still could use some help from Dads or Grandparents so please let us know if you can help.

Climbing Wall Fieldtrip

Apologies for the recent rescheduling of our Climbing Wall fieldtrip. It will now be on Monday May 8. Thanks to fundraising efforts, this bussed fieldtrip will be completely subsidized. Watch for more info, permission slips and waivers, which must be signed prior to the trip, coming home soon!



April 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4 Swim Lesson	5 Music Class	6 Swim Lesson	7 Clay for Kids "top secret" project	8
9	10	11 Swim Lesson	12 HD Cartwright Readers' Theatre	13 Swim Lesson	14 NO SCHOOL	15
16	17 Visit from Pilot Rob	18 Swim Lesson	19 Music Class	20 Swim Lesson	21 Bears paw Fire Hall Field trip	22
23	24	25	26	27	28 Special project with Miss Destiny	29
30						

Notes:

Class Information:

Time: 9 – 11:50 a.m.

Phone: 403-288-1050

Teacher: Clair Brown

Administrator: Catherine Spackman

www.dcakids.com