

Canmore Community Daycare

Winter News



Executive Director's News:

Hope everyone had a happy and inspirational holiday season filled with lots of fellowship.

On December 14, 2017 BOWDA (Bow Valley Builders and Developers Association) held their annual Christmas tie auction and luncheon. The daycare applied for and was exceptionally fortunate to receive this year's funding. In just under 15 minutes the Daycare raised just under 30,000 toward our expansion program at ERS. Congrats to us!

Huge Thank you to all BOWDA members!!



Staffing:

Please join us in welcoming Debbie Waddell to the team as our new Program Director. Debbie comes to us with a very rich and varied background in teaching specializing in the early & middle years. Her first day will be January 2, 2018, please take a moment to introduce yourself.

Emily (Grizzly Teacher) will be leaving us on Friday January 5th. She has accepted a position at Parent Link as the Education Coordinator. We wish her all the best.

We welcome Mandy Stonier back to the Daycare. Mandy will be working in the Grizzlies with Miss Sarah effective January 2, 2018.

MeJung (Chickadee Teacher) will be moving to the School Age Care program to work with the Marmots. We have some relief staff working with Chie and the children

Tania (Assistant Director) will be taking an extended leave of absence to look after some family matters in

Australia. Tania will be gone from February 12th till March 29th.

Reminders:

Closures for February and March: All programs will be closed on the following dates:

- Monday February 19th – Family Day
- Friday March 30th – Easter Friday

Please make sure you are checking your child's cubby on a regular basis. It is important that you are taking home their soiled clothing, notices from the office and your child's amazing art creations.

If your information (address, phone number, child's health information etc.) has changed recently please stop by the office and fill in a "change of information form". Child Care Licensing Regulation requires us to have up to date information for all children enrolled in the program.

Interesting Trend:

During the afternoon pick up some children are asking parents to leave and come back later. We love that your children are enjoying themselves so much; it speaks volumes to the friendships they have formed, the joy they are experiencing and their love of the Daycare. However, when several children talk their parents into leaving them till closing we start to experience staffing level issues. We are open 11 hours and cannot be fully staffed from open to close...we rely on the fact that parents will not all arrive at 7.00am or all pick up at 6.00pm. If you need help during pick up, please let us know and we will assist your child to finish their game and get ready to go home with you.



A Change for Daycare:

Starting in **mid-January 2018** we will be sending home on your child's last day of care, your child's rest time blankets and cuddly. We are finding the volume of washing over-whelming. Our staff will be putting your child's blanket and cuddly in their cubby and you will need to wash it and bring it back the next week. We will have spares in case you forget to bring it back. Thank you in advance for your support.



January in which we are gathering information about volunteerism and fundraising.

Time with your child's teacher:

If you would like to speak with your child's teacher about their progress, friendships, interests etc. please feel free to complete the "May I book some time please" form. These forms can be found at the front desk and in each room. It is a great time to share with us the unique knowledge and understanding you have about your child(ren).

Volunteer Opportunities:

Organization: We're looking for a graphic designer to help update the Fall Fair promotional material & someone who would like to look after the Daycare Society's Website – please contact Cherri at director@canmoredaycare.com

Daycare – Paint some raw wooden boxes.

Daycare – Repair sheets

School Age Care – Fix the Fooze Ball table

School Age Care – Laundry

Junior Kindergarten – Laundry

Message from the Board:

Happy Holidays from the Canmore Daycare Board of Directors! We hope the festive season is magical and fun for you and your little ones. This month the Board takes a break from our regular meeting schedule and will resume in January to start discussing the 2018/2019 budget, strategic planning and fundraising for the upcoming year. If you are interested in joining us, now is the time! We are always happy to have new members join. Many hands make for light work. If you have questions about the Board and what we do or are interested in joining us, please email chair@canmoredaycare.com or speak with one of the office staff.

Accreditation Update Quality Enhancement Program:

As part of our ongoing commitment to improving our practices we are continually reviewing our practices.

In 2018 the Board and our Executive Director will be working on developing a new strategic vision and update our 5 year Business Plan along with the Strategic Plan as this process rolls out your input will be requested through surveys. Our initial survey will come out in

Fundraising:



Thank you to all the families that supported the Purdy's Fundraiser, we hope you and your loved ones enjoyed the chocolates. We want to send a big shout out to our two top sellers Michelle Dux and Sandy and Alan Davis. Well Done!!!

Early Childhood Development Article (Literacy):

Literacy is not something that just happens. One does not wake up literate. Nor does one become literate in the same way that one learns to walk. It is not intuited from the environment nor is it simply a matter of physical maturation. Literacy learning requires instruction and practice, and this learning occurs across discrete stages. The following notes explore the five stages of reading development as proposed by Maryanne Wolf (2008) in her book *Proust and the squid: the story and science of the reading brain*. These five stages are:

- **The emerging pre-reader (typically between 6 months to 6 years old);**



- **The novice reader (typically between 6 to 7 years old);**

Stage 1: The Emergent Pre-reader (typically between 6 months to 6 years old)

"The emergent pre-reader sits on 'beloved laps,' samples and learns from a full range of multiple sounds, words, concepts, images, stories, exposure to print, literacy materials, and just plain talk during the first five years of life. The major insight in this period is that reading never just happens to anyone. Emerging reading arises out of years of perceptions, increasing conceptual and social development, and cumulative exposures to oral and written language." (Wolf, 2008, p 115)

By the end of this stage, the child "pretends" to read, can - over time - retell a story when looking at pages of book previously read to him/her, can name letters of alphabet; can recognise some signs; can print own name; and plays with books, pencils and paper. The child acquires skills by being dialogically read to by an adult (or older child) who responds to the child's questions and who warmly appreciates the child's interest in books and reading. The child understands thousands of words they hear by age 6 but can read few if any of them.

Stage 2: The Novice Reader (typically between 6 to 7 years old)

In this stage, the child is learning the relationships between letters and sounds and between printed and spoken words. The child starts to read simple text containing high frequency words and phonically regular words, and uses emerging skills and insights to "sound out" new one-syllable words. There is direct instruction in letter-sound relations (phonics). The child is being read to on a level above what a child can read independently to develop more advanced language patterns, vocabulary and concepts. In late Stage 2, most children can understand up to 4000 or more words when heard but can read about 600.

"The major discovery for a novice reader is ... [the] increasingly consolidated concept that letters connect to sounds of the language." (Wolf, pp 117)

"A useful method for helping novice readers with phoneme awareness and blending involves

'phonological recording.' This may seem to be just a pretentious term for reading aloud, but 'reading aloud' would be too simple a term for what is really a two-part dynamic process. Reading aloud underscores for children the relationship between their oral language and their written one. It provides novice readers with their own form of self teaching." (Wolf, pp 118)

Daycare Message:



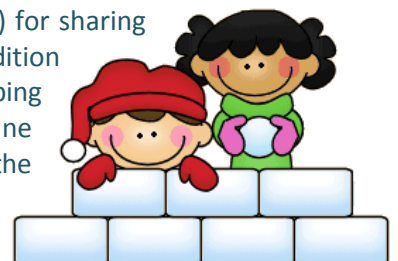
The children worked very hard in the month of December learning their Christmas songs and we hope you enjoyed hearing them at the End of Year Holiday Party. On Friday December 5th we held our annual children's holiday celebration back at the Seniors centre. A big thanks to all the parents and staff who helped out with the evening. Our music teacher Corina did a wonderful job leading the children in the pageant. We were caught a little off guard by the amount of people who attended and are already planning and re-thinking the event for next year.

We are excited to have some of our last room transitions occurring in January. Once these occur there is no more room for children to move up unless a current student leaves the program or drops days. Our next big move will occur in July 2018.

The majority of the children loved the visit from Santa. He gave each child a book, so if your child was not here please ask your child's teacher about their Santa gift.

Junior Kindergarten Message:

At JK in December we have had a great time learning about holiday traditions from around the world. Thank you to Vero (Anna's Mom) for sharing her Catalonian family tradition of 'Tio de Nadal' (the pooping Christmas log!) and Jane (Elise's mom) for sharing the tradition of Mumming from Newfoundland. We



love hearing how people celebrate the holiday season and having the parents participate in our program. Thanks also to Miss Rachel for sharing the festival of Hanukkah with us.

We look forward to January and welcoming the winter. The children love their outdoor experiences and our ever changing nature playground! We wish you all a very happy holiday season.

School Age Care Message:

We have been having fun getting ready for Christmas by decorating our classes, and we all had a blast at the Christmas concert. We have been learning about other special and exciting holidays such as St Nickolas and Hanukkah. Everyone is getting excited for the upcoming winter break. The children are looking forward to the winter break activities such as ice skating and going for a horse drawn carriage ride. Our Marmot Room (Junior Kindergarten and Kindergarten) have some open space for enrollments. They offer care on all Full day Fridays that follow the Rocky mountain public school calendar. Our Eagle Room (Grades 1 & 2) and our Wolf Room (Grades 2-6) have room for full and part time enrollments.



Effective February 1, 2018 our e-mails are changing

Please note our new e-mails:

Cherri Hodgins, Executive Director:

director@canmoredaycare.com

Krista Armstrong, Office Administrator:

admin@canmoredaycare.com

Tania Farquhar, Assistant Director:

info@canmoredaycare.com

Debbie Waddell , Program Director:

program@canmoredaycare.com

Bow Valley Before & After School programs:

OOSC@canmoredaycare.com

Junior Kindergarten program :

JK@canmoredaycare.com