



LAPERLE
Community
Playschool

The Stepping Stones of Early Learning

La Perle Playschool

Newsletter

February 2020



To Our Valued Playschool Families,

It is over halfway through the school year and the students here, at La Perle Playschool are growing more confident every day, thanks to the hard work of our teachers and parent volunteers. In this edition of our newsletter, we have a chance to reflect on our successes, celebrate how far we have come, and look forward to what we can accomplish together for the remainder of the school year.

“The Stepping Stones of Early Learning” is our school’s motto. It drives our decisions, gives us focus, and marks our purpose. It is so rewarding to see the results of this philosophy in the academic and social gains in students at this time of year. They know routines, they are comfortable around their peers, and they show many attributes of a successful student. Thank you to the Playschool’s fantastic teachers. They work tirelessly (in and out of the classroom), to make the Playschool the best it can be... To build our children’s stepping stones in their early learning.

After reflecting on the last few months, I feel that we have a lot to celebrate. On February 4, we welcomed many families into the Playschool during our Open House. One of our 2020-2021 classes is already full (with a waiting list!), and our others are quickly being filled. We extend our thanks to our current Playschool families for spreading the word about our program! Also, you may notice information being sent out about our Playschool’s “Spring Festival.” Over the years, this exciting event has evolved. Our Board is thrilled to share that this year’s event will bring changes that will make the celebration even more fabulous! Preparations for the Spring Festival are beginning, and support from everyone is truly appreciated. Please connect with one of our Spring Festival Coordinators (Erin Umrysh, Kali Heppner, or Taneal Pryce) for more information.

Since La Perle Playschool is a Parent Cooperative, parents and families play an essential role in the running and organization of the school.

There are many ways this happens: through monthly/bi-weekly volunteer days in the classroom, completing evaluations (which were done in January), executing other volunteer duties (such as changeover, toy cleaning, Spring Festival, etc.), taking on a role within the Executive Board, and involving yourself in conversations with our teachers and Board members. Our Annual **General Meeting (AGM)** is another one of these opportunities. Do you have a concern? Do you want to celebrate how fantastic the Playschool is? Do you want to talk with Board Members that you may not see regularly? Do you value your involvement in your child's education? If you've answered yes to any – OR ALL! – of these questions, please join us on **TUESDAY, MARCH 10TH from 6:00-7:00pm** to be a part of the discussion. This meeting is an important opportunity to bring us all together. I'm planning to see many of you there!

Yours in Partnership,

~ Amanda Percy



A Message from our Teachers



Dear Three Year Families,

January and February seem to have rushed right by. In January we were busy learning about Space and the names of the planets. We talked about the planet Earth and how we can take care of it. The last two weeks in January we talked about Bears, where they live and what they eat. We ended with a Teddy Bear picnic wearing our pyjamas and bringing a stuffed teddy bear to school. We also had a visit from Sleepy Bear.



February had us talking about Valentines and friendship. The ways and means of showing love for our family and friends was a highlight. We had a great Valentines party and were able to enjoy a movie. Dinosaurs was the topic for the last two weeks in February. We learned about the different types and names of Dinosaurs, their habits and what they eat.



We will continue with Dinosaurs in March ending with a visit from Barney. In the month of March, we will also learn about Easter. This module will end with a party and a visit from the Easter Bunny (for playschool children only). Our Easter party will be April 9th. March will also bring Spring Break so there will be no school on March 24th and 26th, returning on March 31st.



Preparations for the Spring Festival will begin, so we will be ready for the event on May 9th. Please mark your calendars, plan to attend and have a great time. The children will be performing in a little concert, so please invite your family and friends. More information to come.

Thank you for your continued support and help. I love your children and treasure the time I have with them.

Sincerely

Mrs. Carma Wong



Dear 4 Year Families,

We have had a busy few months. The New Year began with our unit on Space. The children enjoyed learning about the Solar System, the names of the planets, and learning some new songs. We ended our theme with a field trip to the Telus World of Science. We were able to visit the new Space exhibit, watch a show in the newly renovated Margaret Zeidler Theater, play in the new play area and participate in a program called "Blast Off." It's so wonderful that the children get excited about learning something new.



Our theme for last two weeks of January was Teddy Bears. We talked about Bears that live in Canada and Bears that we see in storybooks. The children seemed to really enjoy our Teddy Bears Picnic. They loved wearing their Pj's and bringing their teddy bear to school! It was also wonderful that Sleepy Bear from Travelodge came for a visit. Thank you to those parents that stepped up to make this possible.



We started February with our theme on Valentine's Day and Friendship. Our room looked so Red! We talked about the colors red, pink and purple, but more importantly how to be a good friend. The Valentine's party was a lot of fun. I hope all the children enjoyed opening their special cards from each of their friends. Our field trip this month was to Horizon Gymnastics. The children did lots of jumping, rolling, balancing, and swinging. It was an afternoon of good activity and exercise.



We are just starting our theme on Dinosaurs. I have some real experts in class that I will certainly depend on to help me. This theme is always a class favorite. We will be visiting the Royal Alberta Museum on March 11th to compliment our unit.



It is now past the mid-point of the year, and it has gone by so quickly. The children are growing in more ways than one! They are definitely physically taller but they are also growing socially, emotionally, and cognitively. Thank you again for your support at home with the letter of the week, practicing cutting, and printing their name. I am so proud at their progress and interest.



Thank you parents for your help in the classroom and doing all your committee jobs. You make my job so much easier. I appreciate and thank all those who returned their evaluations. Your feedback is important. We strive to be the best playschool possible and your suggestions and comments help to achieve this. I promise to work on getting your children out on time at the end of the day. Please think of it as a positive, I want more time with your beautiful children. If you ever need your child at the end of class and the classroom door has not opened, please please just knock and I would be happy to send them out.

Looking forward to the rest of the year and all the fun things in store.

Yours in partnership,

Laurie Knoll

JUST A LITTLE
Reminder

- Please remember your child's cup, it needs a good washing each day
- Please remember your child's crafts each day
- Please look on the calendar for all the special days each month

- Please ask your child about their day
- If you are not picking up your child, please have them pass on any pertinent information. Eg. The letter of the week, any notes etc
- Please call when your child will be away, most importantly on field trip days
- Please approach me with any questions , concerns or feedback



Well the year is speeding by isn't it? I will be counting out Panago pizza vouchers over the next week or so and handing them out to the families who placed their orders. Thank you to all who participated in this fundraiser! This is our second year working with Panago Pizza & I am thinking this partnership will continue.

The Spring Festival raffle tickets are due back to your raffle ticket room representatives by Tuesday March 17th (3yr class) and Wednesday March 18th (4yr class). Please hand in the ticket stubs from the original 2 books you were given, and if you took extra books, please hand in those ticket stubs and cash collected by the due date. Don't forget to sign the right forms when you hand in your ticket stubs.

The Spring Festival will be here before we know it (May 9th) and

going along with that we are holding a bottle drive (May 30th). We will be needing our wonderful families to volunteer for one or the other to make both events a success.

Most volunteer duties will encompass an hour and half to two hours of your time. Time that will allow us to make our fundraisers successful!!

Please feel free to reach out

[Taneal Pryce](#)

Fundraising Coordinator



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Toy Cleaning Captain:

Jesslyn Michel 780-933-1493

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Karin Ferrari 780-964-0763

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Please note all contact information is for playschool use only. Thank you!

Parent Changeover Days

Quick reminder to all families, to make sure scheduled change over days go as quickly and as smoothly as possible please make sure to show up to school on time. If you are unable to make it you may have a friend or family member come in your place. If you fail to show for your scheduled day you will be charged \$100.



**TO OUR VOLUNTEERS!**

The Playschool would like to extend a special thank you to our emergency toy cleaning crew! Nathan Sitko, Wendy Park and her niece!



Hello La Perle Families!

We have some big changes coming for our spring tea this year. Starting with a name change! The new name for the event is Spring Festival, but we promise it will still be a great time for all!

As you would have seen by now we have distributed all of our Raffle tickets for you to sell and we are really excited about our prizes this year. All raffle ticket stubs are due back Mar 17 (3yo) and Mar 18 (4yo). Please make sure that all ticket stubs have the name and number on each ticket prior to returning them. If you would like to sell more tickets please see the teachers in the classroom and they will sign

additional tickets out for you. The most tickets sold will win reserved seating for their family at the festival!!

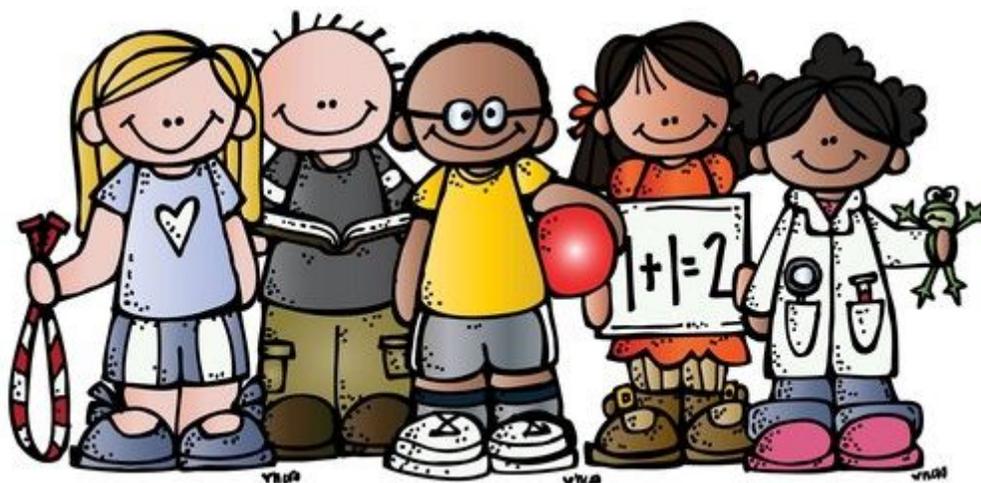
At the end of March we will be starting to collect donations from each family for the toy raffle and silent auction. This year we are trying something new and will be asking for cash donations in place of actual items for our toy raffle and silent auction. The value required will remain \$20 for the toy raffle and \$20 for the silent auction. This change is in an effort to expand the value of the items up for grabs and get the biggest return for our playschool's fundraising effort. If you still have a corporate donation that you would like to provide for the event please contact any of the Spring Festival Coordinators (Erin, Kali and Taneal). We will have more information on the donations and Spring Festival to come. For now, mark your calendars as the Spring Festival is on May 9 2020.

Thank you,

Erin, Kali and Taneal

Spring Festival Coordinators

we ♥ SCHOOL !



Important Dates for the 2019/2020 school year:

February:

- *13th - 3 Yr Program - Valentines Day Party*
- *14th - 4 Yr Program - Valentines Day Party*
- *17th - Family Day - No School*
- *18th - PD Day - No School*
- *27th to Mar. 1st - Teacher's Convention - No School*

March:

- *1st - Teacher's Convention - No School*
- *10th - Annual General Meeting (AGM) 6:00 PM - Parents Welcome!*
- *21st to 29th - Spring Break - No School*

April:

- *8th - 4 Yr Program Easter Party*
- *9th - 3 Yr Program Easter Party*
- *10th to 13th - Easter Weekend - No School*

May:

- *9th - Spring Tea*
- *16th to 20th - May Break - No School*

June:

- *11th - 3 Yr Program - Last Day of School*
- *12th - 4 Yr Program - Last Day of School*



SWEET POTATO BREAKFAST HASH

INGREDIENTS:

- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 tablespoon rosemary
- 1/2 red onion, diced
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 1 sweet potato, diced
- 1 jalapeno (optional)
- 2 bell peppers, diced
- 2 green onions, diced
- 4 eggs

PREPARATION:

1. Heat olive oil in a large skillet over med-high heat. Add diced sweet potato, cover and let cook for approximately 10 minutes or until it begins to soften, stirring occasionally.
2. While the sweet potato cooks, dice the red onion and mince the garlic. Add to the skillet.
3. Dice bell peppers, jalapeno, green onion and rosemary (if using fresh) and add to skillet. Cover and let cook for approximately 5 minutes, or until sweet potato is tender.
4. *Note*: If you like heat you can leave the seeds in the jalapeno. If not, omit jalapeno altogether.
5. Create 4 wells inside of the vegetables, not too close to the edges of the skillet, but far enough apart that no gaps form between them. Crack one egg into each well.
6. Cover and cook 3-5 minutes more, or until eggs are your desired consistency.
7. Enjoy!

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For \$25.00/issue, (5 issues per year), you can advertise in this space to bring awareness of your business or services to the 60+ families that read our newsletters!

Newsletters are printed for all our playschool families and can also be found on our website.

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