



Discovery Playhouse

Children's Society

September/October 2020

ADMINISTRATOR'S COLUMN

A big Welcome and Welcome back to all our new and existing Families!

This September is like none other. With the return to school, return to daycare, and the starting of extra curriculars, there is so much information to take in and it is a bit overwhelming. Keeping this in mind, I will try to keep this short and sweet. If you have any questions do not hesitate to email or phone the centre. We are here to help make your lives a little easier.



September 8th we opened our daycare maxing out at 20 kids instead of our normal number of 24 children. It is so great to see all our returning children that we have missed over the last 6 months and all the new faces!

September 14th our Adventurer program resumes. Please let the office know as soon as you receive the news of who your children's teacher will be. Rob will be off until October, so Jane and Cassidy will be working in the Out of School program. The meeting place at PME remains the same and Cassidy will be picking up the kindergarteners from their classrooms. Please inform your kindergarten child's teachers, that Discovery will be collecting them at the end of the day.

No parent is to come into the Rec Centre. For drop off in the morning, go to the north entrance, look for our Discovery Flag and call the number. A staff member will come to the door to collect your child. For pick up, the kids will be playing at the school playground until approximately 4:00pm. You might want to go straight there if picking up before 4:00pm. Then they will return to Discovery and you will call from the flag at the north entrance for pick up. If you remember, please bring your own pen for signing in and out. There will be no communal foods so please send extra snacks with your child for their afterschool snack.



Please remember our AGM is Monday September 14th at 7pm via Zoom. The zoom meeting information was sent out by email already. We will be accepting in our new board members, approving the annual budget, and communicating any new information during this meeting.

We look forward to a great fall as we all continue to ebb and flow with whatever is thrown at us!!!

Rachel
Executive Director
admin@discoveryplayhouse.ca
604-465-4428

DAYCARE COLUMN



Hello daycare families,

We hope everyone had a fabulous summer, while remaining healthy and safe! It has been a crazy time, but we are busy getting ready for our new daily routines, programs, and activities.

We have some young ones with us, and some have never been in daycare or away from Mom's and Dad's for a long period of time. What a big step it is for these children to get to know so many new faces! This can be a bit overwhelming for them as well as for the parents, but I promise it gets better. If you are worried, feel free to call us 5-10 minutes after you

leave to see how your child is, we are happy to update you because chances are, they are okay. If your child is having a particularly rough day, we will call you.

Show and Tell:

Show and tell will be different this year. Each child will have a show and tell day. When it is their day, they are welcome to bring something from home to show their friends and talk about what they brought. Unfortunately, they will not be able to share or play with the toys that they bring for show and share and they will be put back into their backpack to be sent home at the end of the day. Pictures of family, or something that is special to them, is always a great idea. On their show and tell day, they will also help with the weather and do a nursery rhyme in front of their peers.

Journals: Each child will need to bring in a Scrapbook for their journals.



Art, Science, and cooking:

In the past there was a designated day each week to do a cooking project, science project and art project. This year, we will still have a daily project, however, it will not be a set type of activity. While planning our projects around the children's emerging interests, cooking activities, for example, will be few and far between. As we need to ensure the health and safety of our children and keeping our germs to ourselves as much as possible.

Outside time:

Cooler wet weather is soon to be around the corner. We go outside rain or shine through-out the day so please make sure they come dressed for the weather. Also, please pack 2 sets of extra clothes for your child, as we have learnt, even muddy buddies do not keep the children fully dry when they are having a blast puddle jumping. Each child has their own "extra clothes" bin located in the washroom. (You will not be required to take the extra clothes back in forth everyday as these bins are closed with lids.)



Birthdays:

We love acknowledging your child's special day. We will continue to sing "Happy Birthday" and give them a special birthday sticker. However, this year, we ask that parents not bring in treats to share with friends.

Holiday Parties:

Unfortunately, due to the health risks involved with sharing treats and snacks, we will not be celebrating holidays with our typical parties this year. However, we will have fun and creative ways to still celebrate our day.



Lost and Found:

Label! Label! Label! Everything! Shoes, boots, extra clothes, bedding, mittens, and jackets! I know it seems like a lot, but the staff are busy looking after and caring for your children, we cannot keep track of all their belongings!

We do have a small lost and found basket under the sign in book for items that turn up in the center.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask!

Christina, Cassidy, Victoria, and Abby
(and for the month of September, we are happy to have Discovery's preschool teachers, Lori and Sonja join us in the daycare room)

ADVENTURER'S COLUMN

The summer has come and gone already and although it was different than our past summers, we still had fun. A lot of time was spent outside, going on long walks and exploring new parks. We even went for ice cream a few times. A big "Thank you" to Emily and Sarah our summer staff, they did an incredible job running these camps, it would not have been the same without them.

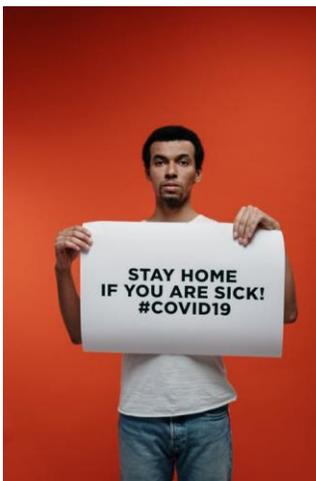
With the summer behind us it is now time for back to school. The start of a new school year is always exciting for parents and children alike, but this year it brings some new challenges. Weather permitted, we will be spending even more time outside after school so please continue to bring your child's water bottles and weather appropriate clothing, as well as hand sanitizer. Early September can still be very hot, so hats and sunscreen are needed to. As we move into the wet weather your child will also need inside shoes that can be used in the gym.



Our popular library visit will be on hold for the foreseeable future, but we have many other fun activities planned for this school year, they may just look a little different. Drop off and pick up time now look a little different. Look for the Discovery flag outside the recentre door on the daycare side. You then call our number and a staff member will come to get your child in the morning or bring them out in the afternoon. We will also be checking temperatures at the door.

In the morning we still have the gym from 7:30am to when we go to school. A quick reminder that there is no food allowed in the gym, so any child dropped off after that time cannot eat breakfast at the center.

We do provide care for Pro D Days and other days which your child is not in school. A week or so before the day in question, we will have a sign-up sheet out so you can let us know if your child will be coming. Please sign up for these days if needed. It helps us plan staffing and the activities we will be doing with the children.



When you pick up your child from school, please let us know so that we do not go looking for them. If you need to get a hold of us about this or any other concern you can email (office@discoveryplayhouse.ca) or call (604-465-4428) the centre.

***IMPORTANT* PLEASE NOTE:** PME is asking all parents to complete a daily health assessment. If for any reason your child does not satisfy the schools health requirements, please notify Discovery as well as the school so that we know your child will not be attending Discovery on that day.

Lastly, Rob will be off for a few weeks as he and his wife will be busy with the arrival of their third child. This is very exciting news and we wish them the best of luck! He looks forward to seeing you all upon his return.

This will be a great new school year!

Rob and Jane