



Discovery Playhouse

Children's Society

November/December 2020

ADMINISTRATOR'S COLUMN

Hello Discovery Families! I feel like every month that passes without incident is worth celebrating and so this November 1st I am celebrating! Who knows what the fall will bring with the increase of COVID exposures, but we have made it this far and the children are thriving! Thank you to everyone who makes our centre function every day. The staff are amazing, the families are supportive, and the kids are inspiring. I am so happy to be surrounded by wonderful people and thankful everyday for positive energy. ❤️ 🟡 🟢



It is wonderful to have our preschool program back up and running, even with the lower numbers, it brings a sense of "normalcy". All the kids in our preschool and daycare programs are curious, spirited, and delightful. The school age kids are growing up so fast and managing their new expectations regarding cleaning and masks. These kids are amazingly resilient!!! They are the reason why we are all here and love doing what we do.

We will continue to monitor for any sign of COVID symptoms and exposures and will follow all guidance from the Provincial Health Officer and Fraser Health. We are still relying on all families to adhere to our COVID policy and communicate with us any potential or confirmed exposures or cases. The COVID policy was drafted in May and signed by all families. Now many months later, and with a lot more information, we might be looking at renewing these guidelines and looking at individual circumstances. At the end of the day, Discovery will look to assess the risk level and rely on the medical professionals to guide us.

As always, please feel free to contact myself or the office if you have any questions or concerns. We do miss all the families being able to come into the Centre, so if you do ever want to speak in person, I can meet outside of the Centre.

Please note that the centre is closed on November 11th, 2020 for Remembrance Day.

Wishing you all a safe and healthy November & December.



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

DAYCARE COLUMN

Hello daycare families! The children have settled in very well and have adjusted into their daycare routines nicely. A big shout out to all the parents who have also adjusted well to our new drop off and pick up routine and we thank you for this!



In September, the children really enjoyed making their own brown bear texture books and getting their hands and feet painted. We have been going on nature walks within the community and talking about fall. Collecting nature items like acorns, leaves, chestnuts, and walnuts. They loved our science experiment to see what sinks and floats and were amazed when a chestnut in the shell floated and sunk when it was out of its shell!

In October we have enjoyed getting ready for Halloween, making slime, and apple tasting. The kids explored using apples and pumpkins to paint with instead of brushes. Our Discovery pumpkin patch in the back field was a great success and we want to thank our volunteer for keeping our pumpkins safe from hooligans 😊



Our special dress up day on October 30, 2020 was Spooktacular! There was a sneaky ghost that we went on a hunt for, unfortunately we never found it, but it did leave us some treats. The children were really excited with Halloween bingo and more pleased when they all won because they got to take home their candies to eat (COVID precautions taken by staff).

The children have been building with the blocks a lot and creating pirate ships which will lead us into our next theme.... Pirates!



Now that the weather is changing and we still require our outdoor time, please, please, please send your children with waterproof **mittens**. They are playing with water and puddles, and their little fingers get very cold quickly. I would recommend ski mittens if possible, and please do not forget to LABEL everything you send with your children

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to speak with the staff.

Christina, Cassidy, Victoria, and Abby

PRESCHOOL COLUMN

It has been so nice to have classes up and running. Everyone has settled in nicely and the days have been running smoothly (knock on wood)! The lunches that have been sent to school look great. Just a little reminder to please not send any Halloween candy etc... in the coming weeks 😊

After one month back we have realized that the children do not need to bring a cup. They just need a water bottle every class. Please remember on Wednesdays they do not need a lunch but a snack that they can put into their coat pocket for when we walk to Hoffman park. We will be going to Hoffman Park or another park in the area on Wednesdays so please have your child dressed appropriately for the weather. As the weather gets cooler and knowing we are spending so much more time outside on all three days of class, it is a good idea to start packing mitts/gloves, toques etc in your children's backpacks. Please remember to **label everything!**

Our "Discovery Pumpkin Patch" was fun, and the kids were very excited to go on a "fieldtrip" to the Pumpkin Patch!



Starting in November we will be doing Show & Tell. On the calendar that was emailed to you, you will see your child's name. On that day, your child can bring something (toy, picture, rock etc..) to show to the class and tell us about it. This will not be shared, so once Show & Tell is over it will be placed back in their backpacks to take home.

On November 10th (Class ONE) & 13th (Class TWO) we are going to have Pajama Day. Please no slippers and a quick reminder that we will still be going outside at the end of the day. If you would like to send a change of clothes for your child, we will get them to change before we go outside.

Dates to remember:

November 11th (Class ONE & Class TWO) – No Class

November 12th (Class TWO) – No Class

December 10th & 11th (Class TWO) – No Class

In December we would like to make Gingerbread houses on December 15th (Class ONE) and December 18th (Class TWO). On these days, every child will need an empty clean 250ml milk carton and a small assorted bag of candy to decorate their houses.

Thank you everyone for a smooth start to the year and we look forward to many more days of fun!

Lori, Sonja & Lisa



ADVENTURER'S COLUMN

The start of the school year has flown by and it has been very busy! Thanks for all the well wishes. Mom and baby are doing great and we are settling in to being a family of 5.



This fall, the weather has given us some amazing days and we have been able to spend a lot of time outside. With the time change and poorer weather around the corner we will be going inside earlier. We have been advised that the best way forward, to help reduce the risk of COVID, is outside time. That being said, we will still go out for part of the day, even in the rain, so please be sure to pack weather appropriate clothing. If you would like your child to change into rain pants or a muddy buddy please let us know so we can remind them.

When we are outside, the children have been swinging on the monkey bars, playing tag and enjoy the fresh air & puddles.

When the kids get into the room the group likes to create at the art table. It is truly amazing what they can come up with when give a few simple art supplies. They also enjoy playing with the Lego, Playmobile and other toys on the carpet. We will continue to plan a lot of fun actives for your children to do.

Thank you for all your patience over the last two months as we have been navigating the new pick up and drop of procedures. It seems like we are all getting into the new swing of things!



Lastly, if your child does not need to be picked up from school please let us know by email to office@discoveryplayhouse.ca or phone 604-465-4428. This is extra important as we can not go into the school to look for them. If they do not come out by 2:30pm, we will be calling you.

Dates to remember:

November 11th, 2020 – Remembrance Day – Centre Closed

November 12th, 2020 – PME Pro-D-Day – Sign up with Rob/Jane

If you have any question about your child or the program feel free to talk with me in person or by contacting the centre.

Rob and Jane