



## PARAMOUNT FAMILY CENTRE

“A HAPPY PLACE TO GROW”

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**OCTOBER 2018**

### **FALL GREETINGS**

The month of September was a whirlwind, now that most children have settled into their classroom and routines we can turn our attention to the programs and environments at Paramount Family Centre.

While we provide a homey environment and work hard to establish relationships with children, we also provide materials to engage children in play without limits. At first glance loose parts may seem like clutter with no specific purpose. Children are innovative thinkers that thrive on items that they can manipulate and use for a variety of purposes.

Loose parts have been an important piece of learning gaining popularity across schools and child care centres all over. Loose parts consist of materials that are open ended and serve multiple purposes. This is where a child’s imagination can soar. Children are innovative, creative thinkers that are absorbing and processing the world around them. Through engagement with loose parts children are learning by observing, trying and developing ideas and theories. Educators act as co-learners to keep challenging them and researching with them. They help celebrate their successes and accomplishments, making them feel like they belong and can contribute to the world around them. This creates a sense that they are capable and competent, and it is this feeling of belonging that nurtures their well-being. Through this and encouraging children to express their thoughts, ideas and feelings helps them to become more in control of who they are.

Step inside the classroom to see examples of this at work in your child’s classroom. Talk to your child’s classroom Educator to see how you can help contribute to the classroom by collecting items to donate. We are always looking for interesting pieces that will add to children’s learning.

- Paramount Family Centre

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: [WWW.PARAMOUNTFAMILY.CA](http://WWW.PARAMOUNTFAMILY.CA) OR CALL 905-573-9192



## TODDLER OBSERVATIONS

Hello everyone! Autumn has officially arrived so let's get ready to celebrate the fall season. As cooler weather approaches the toddlers will require splash pants, rain boots and jackets. Feeling cozy makes exploring the outdoor environment more comfortable.

Now let's talk about what's new and exciting in the toddler room. First, a warm welcome to the new toddlers and their families. We look forward to a fun year of growing and learning together. Also, more loose parts have been added to the classroom. Items such as wood pieces, Velcro rollers and different containers spark the children's creative thinking. The toddlers have taken an interest with these new pieces and ways to play with them. Finally, we are focusing on self-care and self-regulation skills. The toddlers are practicing dressing themselves, mastering a spoon and drinking from big cups. Practicing these skills at home and daycare creates a bridge and provides continuity. It is our goal to work along side families to support the children's development and well-being. We wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving!

Miss Ana, Miss Martha and Miss Shannon

## PRESCHOOL 1 UPDATES

We are ready to step into fall! The days are getting shorter, but it seems like summer doesn't want to leave us yet. So, we are taking advantage of the weather and spending as much time as we can out in the sunshine. We really enjoyed September welcoming new children in our class and getting to know each other. Everyone is still learning to adjust to their new space and environment. Please bring in a family photo for the classroom.

During the summer the children had a lot of fun exploring nature. We also worked on language, literacy, and communication. And we will continue learning throughout the month of October. We will also be taking nature walks and explore the changing colours of fall. With October comes the change of weather so we ask that you please make sure that the extra clothes you have packed in your child's bag are appropriate for this season. Please also make sure rain boots and splash pants are in the bag. The month of October also brings us thanksgiving and Halloween, so let's have a wonderful October!

Miss. Shamima and Miss. Amanda



## PRESCHOOL 2 MESSAGE

This past month we spent time getting to know one another. The children have learned the routine and are following it nicely. We did lots of painting, water play, dancing and sang a LOT of songs! A favourite song has been “The fine musician”. This song allows the children to use their body parts to make noise. Such as stomping their feet, clapping their hands or making funny noises with their tongue. It’s a great activity that allows for everyone to participate and feels as though they belong in the group.

Our first class trip was a huge success! The children all were able to use their curious minds to explore in the apple orchard, the raspberry bushes, and in the pumpkins and the corn fields. We enjoyed a bumpy wagon ride, a picnic lunch and the play park. The bus ride was also a first experience for most. The children have been noticing the changing of the season and the trees. To celebrate the season, we have been making apple sauce and dancing with leaves.

Coming up you will see we will be starting the classroom leader of the day. Look at the calendar for your child’s day. You will also notice the leader of the day board on the classroom door. It will have your child's picture on it when it is their turn. Please be sure to have your child visit the washroom to use the toilet and wash their hands before they are dropped off in the classroom. This will help reduce the number of trips needed for the bathroom. Please refer to the classroom schedule for scheduled bathroom times.

Thank you,

Miss. Kelly





## PRESCHOOL 3 REPORT

BOO! October is here, with that brings falling leaves, pumpkins, costumes and lots of fun. If you have not already done so, please bring in a family picture for us to post on our “Chicka Chicka Boom Boom, Look Who’s in Our Classroom!” wall.

A big part of our first week of the new school year has been focusing on developing our self-help skills as we become familiar with our daily classroom routine. As educators we believe that each child is competent and capable and at this age children are growing and learning at an amazing pace! Self-help skills are those skills that help a child gain control of his/her body over time. Here’s a look at some skills we’ve been working on so far:

- performing simple one- and two- step tasks (“FIRST” hat, “THEN” line up)
- pulling pants up and down in the bathroom
- cleaning up after meals (including scraping own plate into compost) and after play before venturing to a new activity
- learning to focus in a group setting, such as singing, story time, or small group activity
- putting shoes on by themselves
- practicing all the same self-help skills from Preschool at home as well!

Our birthday celebration at school is an exciting time for your child! While we need to ask that you refrain from bringing in special treats for the classroom, we are excited to celebrate your child on their special day by learning all about them! When your child’s birthday approaches you will receive a letter outlining how to create a “Me Box” for your child to show and tell with our class! At the end of the month, our entire centre celebrates that month’s birthdays with fresh cupcakes baked here at the centre!

➤ Miss. Michelle and Miss. Kelsey







## KINDER BEFORE/AFTER SCOOP

Welcome to cool weather and falling leaves!

The Kinder class has had a wonderful month getting to know one another and creating new friendships. A lot of the Kinder's enjoying playing in the dramatic play centre and playing house. I have expanded this interest by creating an ice cream shop in our dramatic play area. There are new loose parts in this area to substitute the food that we have had to create open ended thinking during their play.

The children have been working on creating pictures with various materials in the classroom such as glue, markers, loose parts, pastels, stickers and bingo dabbers. When we finish a picture, the children are always encouraged to write their own names on their paper, to practice hand writing, hand and eye coordination, letter recognition, sound and spelling. The children who are still learning to write their name are given dots to trace so they can practice their writing skills. I will be placing name cards on the shelf to help the children recognize their name and practice tracing their names.



With the wet weather arriving please insure your child has a pair of dry shoes at daycare. They are more than welcome to leave their shoes here in their cubbies or bring their shoes back and forth from school, whatever suits them best. Also, don't forget to make sure your child is dressed appropriately for the walk to and from school. Rain coats, umbrellas, rain boots, sweater, etc. are needed to help keep your child stay dry during the rainy weather.

Miss. Christine



## SCHOOL AGE BEFORE/AFTER GAZETTE

For the past month we have had a great time getting to know each other and participated in fun “All About Me” Activities. We hope to encourage more team building exercises to work together while using our cooperation skills and learn more about fairness. This is a big topic recently as some discussion has taken place on not always needing to win or be the leader of things.

Ask your child about the team building activities they are participating in! We will be continuing different activities that will support team building strategies to encourage fairness and instill life-long skills.

On September 21<sup>st</sup> we spent a wonderful day at the Andrews scenic acres farm!! Although it was hot and windy; we had the opportunity to pick our own apples, pumpkins, decorative corn and taste raspberries. With time to spare we enjoyed the playground, the haystacks, laughed at the farm animals, and searched for the turtles in the pond. We even got a special treat when we left!! (Bag of popcorn).

Lastly, we will be taking part in a bake sale October 12 to support Camp Trillium. This organization is committed to providing a fun, meaningful and enriching camping experience to families impacted by childhood cancer. Miss Kelly, along with her children in P2 will be sharing their stories and will be joining us this day to participate in the bake sale. Be sure to save your spare change for this great cause.

Looking forward to a festive month of October!

Check out this article for an interesting perspective on relational aggression and tips on how to prevent it in young children,  
<https://www.naeyc.org/resources/pubs/yc/nov2015/preventing-relational-aggression>.

Miss. Shelby and Miss. Les



## EXTRA, EXTRA, READ ALL ABOUT IT...

- New door code in effect! Get your code from your child's classroom Educator.
- Help Paramount Drive Alliance Church collect non-perishable food items for the Food Bank- pick up paper bags for filling at your child's classroom, return to the centre as soon as possible- thanks for your participation!
- Centre will be closed for Thanksgiving Monday on October 8'th- we wish you all a wonderful and safe long weekend!
- St. Paul P.A. Day October 22-parents of school age children please sign up!
- October 12'th bake sale 3:30-5:00 p.m. benefitting Campout for Cancer- bring your spare change!
- Campout for cancer is a fundraising initiative which helps send kids with cancer and their families to Camp Trillium. Camp out for cancer is October 18, Miss. Kelly has graciously posted information about this cause that she participates in and is an advocate for. In case you haven't seen the board outside p2, we hope you can check out this website for more information on how you can help raise funds or participate in camp out for cancer. Just checking it out to learn more about it helps to create awareness. Thanks for taking the time to look. Copy and paste the link below into your browser, <https://campoutforcancer.com/>.
- Photo day for preschool and toddler children-October 22'nd and 23'rd, for those planning to dress up- please bring in a change of regular spare clothes to wear for the remainder of the day. All children will receive a class photo free of charge.
- Sunday Service at Paramount Drive Alliance Church 10:30 a.m. with Sunday school for children age 2-12, Nursery for children ages 0-2.
- Paramount Drive Alliance Church Youth program for people ages 12-18 Wednesday's from 6:00-9:00 p.m.
- Halloween is upon us! On this day children are welcomed to bring or come dressed in a costume for the annual trick or treat parade at 9:30 a.m.- volunteers are welcomed to hand out candy, store bought nut free or safe candy welcomed, please do not bring homemade goods, all candy will be sent home for parents to give at their own discretion. Ask your child's classroom Educators for more information.



## OCTOBER BIRTHDAY'S

- NINA OCTOBER 7
- DOMINIC OCTOBER 8
- RYDER OCTOBER 8
- NAOMI OCTOBER 10
- J.T. OCTOBER 11
- CONNOR R. OCTOBER 22
- AVERY OCTOBER 22
- AYAAN OCTOBER 22
- MILENA OCTOBER 23
- DRASCO OCTOBER 23
- MARCELO OCTOBER 25
- ADRIAN(VIN) P. OCTOBER 26
- MASON OCTOBER 28
- GENEVIEVE OCTOBER 28



We celebrate all children's birthday in the month on the last Wednesday of the month with cupcakes, apples and singing Happy Birthday.