



### Website

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### E-Mail Address

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### Important Dates

#### **Board of Directors Meeting**

Monday, Feb.29th @ 6:30pm

#### **Community Kitchen**

Wednesday, Feb.10&24

\$2 donation please



#### **Family Day Closure**

Monday, February 8th

#### **Quadra Kids Pro-D Day & Non-Instructional Day**

Friday, Feb.19<sup>th</sup>-

Courtney Museum & Palaeontology Centre  
Lv. 9:30a.m. Rt. 4:00p.m

Monday, Feb. 22<sup>nd</sup>-  
T.B.A.

## ~February Newsletter~

### Children's Centre Happenings

At the beginning of January the children appeared restless, especially in the block room. Their play was very physical. The cars, a favourite with this group, were being pushed at great speed around the room, cars were flying through the air and the children never seemed to be satisfied. They were loud and fast. The teachers were uneasy; can learning occur in such a "crazy" environment?

Tubes, chutes, balls and tape were introduced into the block area. Our prediction: Cardboard tubes and chutes along with balls will interest the children. The children's play started to look different. They were calm and focused on what they were doing. They began talking and listening to each other. At times the materials were difficult to manipulate and the children calmly worked towards solutions. The teachers now had a role in the play, we became the constructors and the children directed us. The children have slowed down and have become focused. The runs they are constructing are constantly changing as they try out different things, new theories perhaps. The teachers are relaxed and are enjoying the children's experience. We have now begun to wonder what kind of learning is taking place.

We have posted our observations of the children's play and will be adding our own reflections and interpretations of what we see happening. The purpose of these narrations is to make the children's learning visible. We are very interested in your reflections of what is happening here. For example, by offering background information of your child's experiences and insights into their personality will deepen our understanding of what your child is experiencing. It is important to us that we hear from you as you are in the best position to notice the details of your child's behaviour. We look forward to having conversations with you and developing a shared understanding.

### Valentine's Day

In the spirit of Valentine's Day and to support those children who are interested in celebrating it, we will be providing card making materials in our message centre.

If your child is bringing valentines cards from home to the Centre please include all of the children. We would also suggest that you use the children's mailboxes, as the teachers will be unable to help the children give them out. Thank you.

The children engage in dramatic play for a large portion of their time spent at Quadra Kids, inside and out. This play ranges from playing out fire drill practices to what to do when attacked by zombies to short skits created by the children. This spontaneous social pretend play is very important to a child's social, physical, language, cognitive and emotional development. Dramatic play has all of these domains in full swing! Joan Isenberg and Mary Jalongo, in their work, "Creative Expression in Play in Early Childhood" said: "In dramatic and sociodramatic play children can be both actors and directors. As actors, children experience the feelings, thoughts and behaviors of the roles they are playing. As directors, they imagine the thoughts, feelings and behaviors associated with a role and coach the actors. Playing both roles in dramatic and sociodramatic play helps children:

- Construct their own understanding of how the world works by stepping into the shoes of another person.
- Act out social situations requiring negotiation with players with different needs and views.
- Express their inner feelings
- Communicate in meaningful ways and develop social skills by negotiating roles, locating props, and agreeing on a common theme.
- Develop the confidence to explore freely and imaginatively the structured forms of drama." (Isenberg & Jalongo, 181)

"Play is often perceived as immature behavior that doesn't achieve anything," says David Whitebread, a psychologist at Cambridge University who has studied play for decades. "But it is essential to their development. They need to learn to persevere, to control attention, to control emotions. Kids learn these things through playing." Play on Quadra Kids!!!

## Quadra Kids Pro-D & Non-Instructional Days

Friday, February 19<sup>th</sup>

**Courtney Museum & Palaeontology Centre**

Guided Tour of the Dinosaurs

Lv. Centre @ 9:30 Catching 10:00 ferry

Rt. Off the 3:30 ferry

Cost: \$10 - Bring a packed lunch & water

After the tour we will explore the rest of the museum and go to Lewis Park playground.

Monday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> – T.B.A.

## Quadra Kids Reminder

It is very important to contact the Children's Centre if your child will not be attending Quadra Kids. We spend a great deal of time trying to track down your child if they do not get off the bus. This takes the teacher away from the group and is very disruptive to the Quadra Kids program. We would sincerely appreciate your co-operation with this. Thank you.

## Welcome To...

- Griffin Loiseau-Aston & Family
- Asher & Ruby Jean Shepit & Family

## Income Tax Receipts

Receipts for your 2015 Childcare Fee are available by request. Please contact Sue and she will provide you with one.

## Sick Policy Reminder

If a child has a fever (which is defined as a temperature above 99.4 degrees Fahrenheit; a child cannot be on medication to reduce the fever and attend the Centre), diarrhea, is vomiting, has an earache and/or has thick green mucus running from their nose, we ask that the child does not attend the Centre. A child needs to be symptom free for 24 hours before returning to the Centre.

## Kindergarten Registration

Registration for Kindergarten is from Monday, Feb.1<sup>st</sup> to Friday, Feb.5<sup>th</sup> at Quadra Elementary School. Children must be 5 years old before December 31<sup>st</sup> 2016 to be eligible. Please take your child's birth certificate, Care Card and proof of residency when registering.

**Thank you for sharing your children with us~  
Dee, Barbara, Lise, Cally, Jody, Pam, Cathy and Sue.**