



Website

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Important Dates

Board of Directors Meeting

Monday, Feb.6th @ 6:30pm

Community Kitchen

Wednesday, Feb.8 & 22
Please send a \$2 donation please.

Family Day Closure

Monday, Feb.13th



Pro-D Day

Friday, Feb.24th
Bowling Fieldtrip
Watch for details

~February 2017 Newsletter~

Children's Centre Happenings

Since joining the children in their play with guns and things that make the adults in their lives squirm, we have been involved in some very interesting and deep conversations with them. We began our inquiry into this play with the following questions in mind: What is it that draws the children to this play? Do the children respect and value their friends who are not interested in this type of play and visa-versa? As adults, how do we demonstrate the value in this play? How can we further develop our understanding of what is being processed? We also made adjustments to our environment by removing several toys from our environment wondering if this will help to slow them down. Our findings so far have been fascinating and exciting. Bad guys are a mystery to the children as they seem to think they are invincible; does this demonstrate a gap in their knowledge or are they exploring mortality? Another reoccurring theme is the desire to capture members of the opposite sex; why is this? Are the children processing differences they are noticing between boys and girls as they develop their autonomy? At this point we walk a fine line; our reactions to their play will influence their wonderings and theories. Therefore our role is one of co-investigators, supporting the children through their process of formulating their own theories based on exploration and experimentation vs. that of informers passing on our formulated opinions. How else can they become individual, critical thinkers? We have also observed that with our help and guidance, the children choose on their own to respect their friends who are not comfortable with some of their games. Given the time to process information about how their friends are feeling, the children are making positive choices around respecting their friends. The children have welcomed us into their play with open arms. By participating we are demonstrating to the children that their play is valuable and we are interested in listening to what they have to say. We would like to invite you to join us in this conversation with your children; we encourage families to share their ponderings, concerns and/or insights as we continue to understand what is happening here.

Quadra Kids News

The children continue to make incredible creations with the glue gun and the rich materials available to them in the program. They have created summer camps, towns, playgrounds and more. Some days they continue to add more details to their settings and other days they play with them. They are a very creative group of children who inspire each other in their creations. As always, we will gladly accept any donations of interesting bits and bobs, for example: small boxes or paper rolls.

There is a new swing in the big playground which the children are enjoying. Take a moment and have a swing yourself on it or give your child a push when you leave the Centre.

We rented the community centre for 2 hours for the last pro-d day where we enjoyed making forts, racing around on the scooters, and playing ball games. Lots of fun was had by all. For the next pro-d day on Friday, February 24 we will be going bowling, watch for details as we approach the day.

Second Step

We have begun the Second Step Youth Violence Prevention Program starting with **Unit 1; Empathy**. The ability to identify, predict and understand how others feel is the foundation for successful conflict resolution, positive social skills and anger management. In the first few lessons we will be learning how to identify the feelings of others from a variety of physical (face, body) and situational cues and to recognize that people may have different feelings about the same thing. As well, we will learn that feelings change and why this is so. By listening to and talking about feelings, children learn to value their own feelings and be more understanding of others. We meet at 10:00 on Tuesdays and Wednesdays.



Welcome to...

- Miles Jean who joins his brother Drew
- Rosa Etheridge who joins her brother Emilio
- Maddy and Sylvan Maffin & Family

Friendly Reminders

It is very important that you contact us by phone if your child will not be attending in both our Quadra Kids and Preschool programs. If your child does not get off the bus for Quadra Kids it requires the teacher to track down where your child is which is very disruptive to the program. In our Preschool program it can have an effect on our staffing and our programming if we are expecting your child to be here and they do not show up. It also frees up a space for another child to attend if we are given notice of the absence. The earlier notice we get the better, you can leave a message at the Centre at any time.

Spare Clothing

Please send a complete set of spare clothing for your child each day. We have spare clothing here however it is to be used as a back-up. If your child does wear the Children's Centre's clothing home please wash it and return it as soon as possible. At the moment we are very low on socks, if you could check for Children's Centre socks, which are labelled, it would be most appreciated. Thanks!

**Thank you for sharing your children with us
~ Dee, Barbara, Lise, Cally, Sue, Cathy,
Ramona & Sarah.**