

## OCTOBER/NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER 2020

### **Parents,**

The children have settled into the routines of school and daycare. Now, we are looking towards the activities of the upcoming months and the changes in our weather. Even though our weather has been okay lately we have to keep in mind that fall is here. It is important that we make sure that all the children are dressed properly. The afternoons may be warm, but the mornings are still quite cold. We all know that our weather can change in no time. You must make sure to pack the proper clothing that your child will need to walk to school as well as play outside – appropriate outdoor footwear is also mandatory.

We are incredibly happy to be able to offer the dance class back here at the center, with added precautions in place to keep everyone safe. The dance teacher enters and exits the building through the gym door and fogging is being done between each class. The chemical being used is Health approved and same to be used around the children. Fogging has become one of our daily routines along with the continual sanitizing of all toys and surfaces. We are all trying to do our part to keep everyone safe.

**Dance Classes:** Wednesday afternoons at the center- Devon – 403-276-7918  
www.springbankdancers.com

### **Important Dates**

***October 9<sup>th</sup> - Friday- no school – center is open***

***October 12<sup>th</sup> – Monday Thanksgiving – center is closed***

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***November 11<sup>th</sup> - Wednesday – Remembrance Day – center is closed***

***November 23, Monday-PD Day- no school – Center is open***

**[REMINDER: To get a hold of the individual programs or to text](#)**

**DAYCARE/ECS CELL NUMBER – 587-830-0076**

**BAS CELL NUMBER – 587-830-0074**

### **Daily Health Screening**

**We are thrilled to announce that we no longer require the Daily Health Screening Form in paper copy! However, we still require you to review the questions before bringing your child to the center. We will ask for a verbal confirmation to all screening questions when you bring your child in. Temperatures will still be taken upon your child's arrival. As we all know this has been a time consuming, tree killing process. We are so thrilled to see this part of our daily screening come to an end.**

**Please keep in mind when asked, to you answer the health questions correctly. I know that this is a very frustrating time of year with it being flu and cold season. We know that with the runny nose it is causing everyone a lot of grief, we are all following the same guidelines and hopefully this will help to get Covid under control.**

Please review the changes that were made to our handbook due to this pandemic.

## Parent Handbook – COVID-19 Addendum

Due to ongoing restrictions and guidelines put in place by Alberta Health and the Alberta Childcare Licensing regulatory body. There are a few policies in our handbook that are temporarily being suspended, updated, or modified. Please take a moment to review the following policy changes. Please note as recommendations change, our policies will reflect current best practice.

**Open Door Policy** – Page 6 – At this time, we are limiting the number of visitors into our facility. As such we are asking parents to remain just outside of the door when dropping off or picking up their child(ren). There may be extenuating circumstances in which a parent is required to enter the building – during this instance, each visitor is to complete a health survey, agree to a temperature check and wear a mask during their entire visit. While our door may not be open, our lines of communication always are - should you have any questions, concerns or wish to schedule a phone conversation with any member of our staff, please contact us via phone or email.

**Parent General Meetings** – Page 6 – We will not be hosting an in person meeting anytime soon. In previous years we have sent out an anonymous survey to gain insight into how our community feels about our center and the care we provide. We greatly value the input of our families and larger community. Any and all suggestions are welcome and will be taken under advisement.

**Volunteering** – Page 7 – Due to cohort restrictions, we are unable to allow any volunteer activities at Springbank Cottage.

**Hours of Operation** – Page 8 – Our current hours of operation are 7:00 am – 5:30pm. This is currently in place to accommodate the extra cleaning and disinfecting that happens each night after the children have left. This hopefully will be temporary and may be amended soon.

**Drop off and Pick Up** – Page 8 – We are currently conducting front door drop offs and pick-ups. Please arrive during your scheduled time (or at a pre-arranged time) to drop off your child for the day. At pick-up, please send a text to either the Daycare/ECS cellphone (587)-830-0076 or the BAS cellphone (587)-830-0074 to let us know you have arrived and we will bring your child(ren) to you. Please have your daily health screening form ready to present at drop off.

**Clothing Shoes and Personal Belongings** – Page 9 – Please send your child to daycare with only their necessary items; appropriate outdoor attire, backpack, change of clothes, lunch kit, water bottle and indoor shoes. All other personal items are to remain at home during this time.

**Snack and Lunches** – Page 10 – We are unable to provide any snacks currently. Please pack a few extra items within your child's lunch to ensure they have enough food to fuel their day.

**Sick Children** – Page 15 – We are currently following all Alberta Health Service recommendations. Sick children are not to attend Cottage until symptoms reside. If your child has ANY new, or worsening symptoms (fever, cough, shortness of breath/difficulty breathing, sore throat, chills, painful swallowing, runny nose/nasal congestion, feeling unwell/ fatigued, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, unexplained loss of appetite, loss of sense of taste or smell, muscle/joint aches, headache or conjunctivitis) please keep them home for the wellbeing of our cottage community. Any of the above COVID-19 symptoms will require a COVID-19 screening provided by AHS or for your child to remain home until completely symptom free. Upon obtaining a COVID-19 screening, please follow all AHS recommendations.

**Photo and Social Media** – Page 23 – As we are unable to let our parents into the building to see everything that we have been up to, we proposed to allow group photos to be shared through our individual weekly newsletters. A separate consent form has been sent out to reflect this change.

**Field Trip/ Offsite Excursion Policy** – Until further notice, there will be no offsite excursions.

**Schedules** – Page 32 – 34 – Schedules reflect our current hours of operations. Also, school dismissal times have changed to allow a staggered exit. School aged children can enter the school between 8:25 am and 8:42 am and are dismissed at either 3:00pm or 3:10 pm (M-Th) and 1:45pm or 1:55pm on Fridays

## Daycare Newsletter

### October / November 2020

**Hello families,**

We have made it through our first month of school year! The children have almost settled into the routines of the daycare room. Fall is here and we are looking forward to many fall activities. With Fall comes a change in the weather, therefore please make sure to pack your child with the proper clothing (hat, gloves, rubber boots or snow boots and a warm jacket). All these clothes are needed so your child can comfortably play outside!

**Extra Activity:** Dance classes, Wednesday 3 to 3:30 Devon – 403-276-7918 [www.springbankdancers.com](http://www.springbankdancers.com)

#### Important Reminders

In the past couple weeks children sent home with two forms,

Group photo sharing waiver

Cheers project- Please if you are interested fill up forms and returned them to the daycare!

#### Dates to Remember!

Thanksgiving- Monday October 12(Center closed)

Remembrance Day-Wednesday November 11(Center closed)

Halloween in Daycare is going to be Friday October 30

Unfortunately, this year our Halloween party in the daycare room will be different! Children are welcome to dress in costumes but No weapons and No Halloween mask! Please keep in mind that costume should not be too bulky or hot, and not too difficult for going to the washroom.

Each child must bring their own treat for Halloween party, No goodie bags for other children!

#### Lunches,

Please provide your child enough food, snack for morning and afternoon! Do not forget to put an ice pack in the Lunch box to keep the food cold!

**Children interests** = Puzzles, Games, Cars, Trains, Housekeeping, Blocks & outdoor play

**Happy Thanksgiving and Happy Halloween**

Sholeh, Angela

# Kindergarten Newsletter

## October/ November 2020

Hello Parents,

It's so hard to believe that September is over! We successfully navigated our way through this month of uncertainty and new challenges. Thank you to all our families for being vigilant about the new health guidelines and keeping your children home when they are feeling sick. We are all doing our best to keep everyone safe and healthy!

With fall, comes a change in the weather, therefore please ensure that your child has proper clothing for our daily outdoor play. This could include warm jackets, hats, gloves, rubber boots/snow boots, etc.).

### Extra Activities:

Dance classes for the children that signed up run every Wednesday from 3:40-4:25

Devon – 403-276-7918                      [www.springbankdancers.com](http://www.springbankdancers.com)

### Dates to remember:

October 9/2020- PD day at school-cottage is open

October 12-Thanksgiving Day-cottage closed

October 30- Halloween for cottage-come in costume

November 11-Remembrance Day-cottage is closed

November 23, Monday, PD Day at school, center is open

### Birthdays:

October 8- Happy Birthday Liam                      October 10- Happy Birthday Abigaile

October 16- Happy Birthday Ellis                      October 30- Happy Birthday Evan

November 19- Happy Birthday Maddie

### Halloween:

Halloween will be celebrated on Friday, October 30th. The children can come to cottage wearing their Halloween costumes but please no props with the costumes as we must follow the health guidelines. If you would like you can send a special snack for your child, at this time there can be no sharing of food. We appreciate your continued cooperation!

### Lunches:

Here at cottage, we like to teach the children about healthy eating habits and which food we should eat first and last. First, we start with the growing food (sandwiches, pasta, wraps, soup, etc.). Second is the vegetables, third is fruit, fourth is dairy and lastly the treat. Please remember to continue to send a separate snack in your child's backpack for Kindergarten.

### Family Picture Board:

If you have not done so already, please feel free to bring in a family picture so we can hang it on our family bulletin board. We love including everyone's families within our classroom and the children take comfort in having a piece of home with them at cottage.

### Spare clothes:

Accidents happen! Please ensure that your child has extra clothing that we can keep in their lockers at cottage.

### Children's interests:

Block centre, House Centre, Craft table, Outdoor play and Gym time

**Happy Thanksgiving!**

**Melissa P., Flor and Alanna**

## BAS October/November Newsletter 2020

Fall is in full swing and we are waiting with anticipation for winter! Our new “normal” is becoming easier to navigate and we appreciate the effort that everyone in our Cottage family is putting in to ensure everyone is happy, healthy and safe. We have been so fortunate to have such beautiful weather and we are definitely spending as much time outside as possible. Further to that, please ensure your child is prepared for the weather – things can change so quickly out here. We are hoping to be outside as much as possible as the fresh air does wonders after being cooped up in school all day. Hopefully the really cold weather won't hit until much later.

Earlier in September we had sent out a revision to our Parent handbook in regards to Covid regulations – I hope you all took a moment to review any affected policies. We are still following all advice of Alberta Health Services and we will keep you updated on any changes that may occur. We also sent out a group photo consent form so as to be able to share photos within our email group. Please download the form and return to the centre as soon as possible!

### Extra Activities:

Dance classes for the children that signed up run every Wednesday from 4:35-5:20  
Devon – 403-276-7918                      [www.springbankdancers.com](http://www.springbankdancers.com)

### Birthday Shout

outs! – please let us know if we missed anyone!

October 1 <sup>st</sup> – Joshua 16 <sup>th</sup> – Gage 19 <sup>th</sup> – Beth	November 14 <sup>th</sup> – Jack 20 <sup>th</sup> – Mason
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### Important Dates:

October 9 – PD DAY - no school – Center is open  
October 12 – Thanksgiving – Cottage CLOSED  
November 11 – Remembrance Day – Cottage CLOSED  
November 23 – PD Day – no school- center is open

**Halloween** – The children are welcome to wear their costumes at Cottage on **Friday the 30<sup>th</sup>**. Please leave any costume extras (props, shoes, gadgets etc) at home! We will have some Halloween fun in the afternoon.

We hope everyone has a happy thanksgiving and a wonderful fall!

Melody, Melissa and Rowena