

February 2017

NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Have you ever wondered, what is play? Why do I see my child always playing? Play is critical to the healthy growth and development of children. As children play, they learn to solve problems, get along with others and to develop their fine and gross motor skills needed to grow and learn (UC Davis Cancer Center and UC Davis Children Hospital, 2017). Researchers have found positive relationships between play and academic performance.

What can you do to support play?

- Reduce screen time (i.e. tv, smart phone, tablet).
- Provide them space and time in your home for your child to play in a variety of ways.
- Be a playmate for your child. Let them be in charge.
- Provide them loose parts for your child to explore and for open ended play (i.e. blocks)
- Provide toys that have multiple uses (i.e. dress up clothes).
- Learn about your child's interest and what they love to play with.

With our busy schedules, it can be hard to find the time. Here are some activities that you and your child can do together:

- Tea Party during dinner or snack time.
- Sing and dance together.
- Water play while washing dishes.

Resources

Below is a list of some create resources. You are also more than welcome to talk to Sam, if you have any questions or via email at peterpanosctower1@gmail.com

Books

- Playful learning: Develop your child's sense of joy and wonder, by Mariah Bruehl
- Child's Play: Myth, Mimesis and Make-Believe, By L. R. Goldman
- Just Playing? The Role and Status of Play in Early Childhood Education, By Janet R. Moyles neigh

Useful Websites

- <http://www.cbc.ca/news/health/child-media-use-canadian-paediatric-society-1.3824305>

Above is a great link to explain rules for screen time. Below explains how to choose the right toy.

- http://raisingchildren.net.au/articles/choosing_toys.html

Peter Pan Child Care and Out of School Care. Where your children's imagination, can FLY!

POLICIES

We have updated our Code of Conduct Policy. If you would like a copy, please see Sam.

PARENT/GUARDIAN INVOLVMENT

I want to thank the parents who have come forward and asked if they could volunteer their time, we really appreciate it. If you are interested in volunteering, please ask Sam.

SUBSIDY

Any Parents and/or Guardians on subsidy, if your child is in the Castle or Kinder Room, please make sure your child/ren are here for a minimum of **100 hours per month** and if your child is in the Tiger or VIP Rooms, please make sure they are here for a minimum of **50 hours per month**. Anything less than these hours could result in your child/ren not being qualified for subsidy. It would be then your responsibility to pay the remaining amount.

It is also your responsibility that you re-apply for subsidy before it expires. You may receive a friendly reminder to re-apply, please do so as soon as you can.

If you have any questions about your subsidy, please call 780-644-9992 option 2 or speak with Sam.

WINTER WEATHER:

Please have your child/ren dressed in appropriate clothing. This also includes an extra set of clothes and socks; in case they were to get wet. The Daycare Centre **is not** responsible if these items were to get lost or stolen.

DATES TO REMEMBER

February 6th – Public School PD Day. Centre is **OPEN**

February 7th – Catholic School PD Day Centre is **OPEN**

February 20th – We are **CLOSED** for Family Day. We will re-open the following business day, regular business hours.

DAYCARE HOURS

7:00 AM to 5:45 PM – Monday thru Friday

Late fees will be charged. We also ask that you arrive at a reasonable time so that your child can enjoy morning activities.

ILLNESS

If your child is ill or has an appointment, please contact our Centre at 780-463-2004. This helps us to schedule our staff. Please note **sick children must be kept at home,** if they come to the center with a fever or diarrhea, you will be called to pick up your child. The reason for this, is because we do not want to spread the illness to the children and to the staff. We appreciate your co-operation.

Peter Pan Child Care and Out of School Care. Where your children's imagination, can FLY!

MEDICATION

Please note that **all medication must be labelled and in its original pharmacy container.**

EMAILS

Parents wishing to communicate with via email are more than welcome to do so. My e-mail address is peterpanosctower1@gmail.com Alternatively, you can leave me with your e-mail address.

PAYMENTS

Payments can also be made **via e-transfer**. You can send it to the email listed above. If you have any questions, please ask Sam in the office.

TAX RECEIPTS

If you would like your 2016 Tax Receipt, please inform Sam.

Sam

Just Playing

When I am building in the block room,

Please don't say I'm "Just Playing."

For, you see, I'm learning as I play,

About balance and shapes.

Who knows, I may be an architect someday.

When I am getting all dressed up,

Setting the table, caring for the babies,

Don't get the idea I'm "Just Playing."

For, you see, I'm learning as I play.

I'm expressing myself and being creative.

I may be an artist or an inventor someday.

When you see me sitting in a chair

"Reading" to an imaginary audience,

Please don't laugh and think I'm "Just Playing."

For, you see, I'm learning as I play.

I may be a teacher someday.

When you see me combing the bushes for bugs,

Or packing my pockets with choice things I find,

Don't pass it off as "Just Play."

For, you see, I'm learning as I play.

I may be a scientist someday.

When you see me engrossed in a puzzle or some

"plaything" at my school,

Please don't feel that time is wasted in "Play."

For, you see, I'm learning as I play.

I'm learning to solve problems and concentrate.

I may be in business some day.

When you see me cooking or tasting foods,

Please don't think that because I enjoy it, it is "Just Play."

For, you see, I'm learning as I play.

I'm learning to follow directions and see differences.

I may be a cook someday.

When you see me learning to skip, hop, run, and move my body,

Please don't say I'm "Just Playing."

For, you see, I'm learning as I play.

I'm learning how my body works.

I may be a doctor, nurse, or athlete someday.

When you ask me what I've done at school today,

And I say, I "Just played."

Please don't misunderstand me.

For, you see, I'm learning as I play.

I'm learning to enjoy and be successful at my work,

I'm preparing for tomorrow.

Today, I am a child and my work is play.

Anita Wadley