
DALHOUSIE COMMUNITY KINDERGARTEN NEWSLETTER

MAY/JUNE 2010

DATES TO REMEMBER:

Tuesday May 4 - Kindergarten Society Meeting, 1 pm in the classroom. Parents welcome.

Friday May 7 - Mother's Day Tea, 10:45 am.

Monday May 17 - LAC Changeover meeting, 7:30 pm.

Wednesday May 19 & Thursday May 20th - Orientation for new students, 1:30 - 2:30.

Friday May 21 - Organizational day - no classes.

Monday May 24 - Victoria Day - no classes.

Wednesday May 26 - Bike rally.

Friday May 28 - Last bottle drive of the school year.

Sunday May 30 - Year-end class inventory, 10 am.

Monday May 31 - Yoga games day

Thursday June 3 - Butterfield Acres field trip - 9:30 - 1:30.

Friday June 4 - Professional day - no classes.

Thursday June 10 - Splash party, in class (If poor weather, move to June 14).

Friday June 11 - Organizational day - no classes.

Sunday June 13 - Mrs. Brown's 20th anniversary of teaching here party.

Tuesday June 15 & Wednesday June 16 - Summer birthday celebration.

Friday June 18 - Year-end Celebration & Last day of school!

Monday June 21 - Year-end class clean-up time to be determined.

MOTHER'S DAY TEA

The Mother's Day Tea will be held on Friday, May 7, starting at 10:45 am. Mothers, please reserve this day on your calendar so that you can be sure to attend the festivities. To maximize your pampering, please arrange for alternate care of younger siblings during this event.

INVENTORY AND FINAL CLEAN-UP

Marcella will soon be contacting you to volunteer for either the year-end book inventory (TBD), year end class inventory (Sunday May 30th, 10 am), or the year end clean-up (Monday June 21st, time TBD). You may remember signing up for one of these activities back when you first registered your child.

MRS. BROWN'S BEEN TEACHING HERE HOW LONG?

This year marks Mrs. Brown's 20th year teaching at the Dalhousie Community Kindergarten Program! To celebrate, we are having a party!! Bring the kids and come to the community centre for some fun and food on the afternoon of Sunday June 13th!!! Details are still be finalized, but mark the date in your calendar!!!!

QUACK QUACK

The ducklings have hatched! Come and meet our newest members of the classroom. The students are thrilled with their new "classmates" and have had fun picking names for them. And no, parents won't be asked to care of these guys on weekends - the class fish and toad over the summer however....

SPLASH PARTY

The class will be having a Splash Party (think sprinklers, wading pools and slip 'n' slides) on Thursday June 10, if the weather is good, otherwise on Monday June 14. Please let the teacher know if you have water or sprinkler toys or wading pools you can lend us. Toys need to be brought in by Wednesday June 9. Children can bring squirt toys if they are not shaped like weapons. Please note that we will be needing lots parent helpers on that day.

BIKE RALLY

The kids are having a bike rally on Wednesday May 26. Several fun riding events will be set up in the tennis courts next to the Community Centre. Children bring their own bike/tricycle, and a helmet (no helmet, no riding). Parents, please check beforehand to ensure the helmets and straps fit properly, and that bikes are adjusted at the proper height. Kids from H.D. Cartwright will be helping out with the rally, but parents are welcome to volunteer as well.

BUTTERFIELD ACRES

There is a field trip to Butterfield Acres on Thursday June 3rd, from 9:00 - 2:0. Kids bring their own lunch. This trip the kids will be riding in style - we are taking a school bus! We will be needing parent volunteers. See permission slip for more details.

YEARBOOKS

The deadline for sending photos to Lisa for consideration in the yearbook is **May 20**.

LAST DAY OF CLASSES

The last day of classes is June Friday 18, the Year-end Celebration. Friends, family and yes, siblings, are invited to help celebrate the successes this lovely group of kids have had in kindergarten. Children should arrive at 9:00, and families at 10:45.

FUNDRAISING

- * Our next bottle drive is Friday May 28. Please drop off your bottles and cans at school that morning. Don't forget - **milk containers can now be returned for a refund**. Bottles can be dropped off on that day at school. You can also drop your own bottles off at the VRRRI bottle depot and ask for the proceeds to go to the Dalhousie Community Kindergarten program. Every little bit helps!
- * **CO-OP Gift Cards** - Orders for CO-OP gift cards will be winding down soon, but you can stock up for the summer! Place your order soon. When you order CO-OP gift cards, you get the full amount you order, and CO-OP gives an additional 5% of your amount to our kindergarten program!

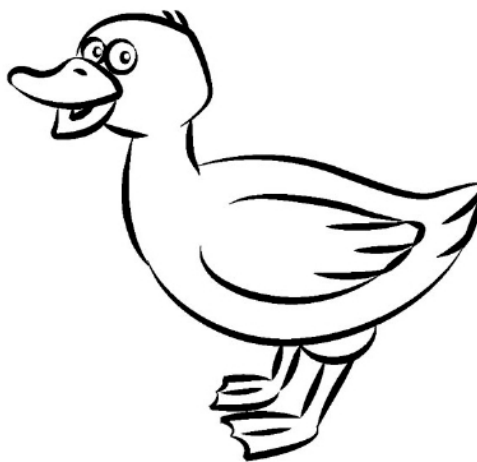
CONTACTS

Administrator:

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Teacher:

Clair Brown - 288-1050, dcakids@telus.net,
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TEACHER'S CORNER

Can you believe that the kindergarten year is rapidly drawing to an end? It seems like just yesterday we watched the children come tentatively through the door for the first time. They have grown so much in confidence and competence!

April has been a fitness month, with enthusiastic participation in the Walk-a-thon. With the SPRING theme, we started looking at a variety of life cycles, beginning with the arrival of duck eggs, and continuing with caterpillars of Painted Lady butterflies. (In May I hope to add tadpoles, but some years they are unavailable.) We have finished our letter-of-the-week program, and now we can start using the letters to make "messages" each day. The kids have been given journals for their messages, and news items are encouraged (what you did on the weekend, any new collectibles, lost teeth, a nature observation, or just something they noticed and liked). Some children like to rehearse at home so they can spell one or two key words in the news they want to write about. Sounding out and invented spellings are encouraged, but sometimes you may need to write a word or two on a small paper for them to bring to school and copy. Please do not send whole sentences to copy, since that puts a limit on the amount of discovery the kids can make about writing. The big message board will have a message from the teacher each day, which will provide experience with common patterns in words, word endings and beginnings, some sight words, and predicting in reading.

Special events in May include our Mother's Day tea. The Tea will be held May 7 from 10:45-11:45 for our guests. Class times remain the same. If Mom is unable to attend, perhaps a Grandparent, aunt, family friend, or nanny can come. The children often feel disappointed if they have no one to fetch goodies for. Please try to arrange baby-sitting for younger siblings (except babies) as this as a special occasion for you and your kindergarten child to enjoy. More than one adult can attend if you let me know ahead of time. Just leave a note on the mailboxes.

For the rest of May the theme is ANIMALS. We hope to have a bike safety rally on May 26, and to include some student volunteers from HD Cartwright Junior High school. Kids will bring their own bikes and helmets for this parent-run event. We are planning a trip to Butterfield Acres, on Thursday June 3, which will continue through lunch and until 1:30. Children will bring their own lunch, and we will ride on a school bus, together with our parent helpers - no driving! Yay! More information will arrive with your permission forms closer to the day.

Since the school is small we will be able to have a Splash Party. This is like a larger school's 'sports day', but with sprinklers, wading pools and rocket launching. The Splash Party will be on Thursday June 10 if the weather is good, or Monday June 14 if Friday is cold. Please let me know if you have water or sprinkler toys or wading pools you can lend us. (Look for a list on the mailboxes in early June.) I would need toys brought in by Wednesday at the latest, so I can set up. Children can bring squirt toys if they are not shaped like weapons. Please note that we will be needing lots of fun-loving parent helpers on that day.

We will also need parent volunteers on June 21, to clean up the classroom and sterilize all the toys, so don't plan your summer get-away too soon, and I won't too! The last day of classes for the children is June 18, the Year-End Celebration. Friends, family and yes, siblings are invited to help celebrate the success this lovely group of kids have had in kindergarten and junior kindergarten.

I would like to thank all the families for a terrific year. I appreciate the energetic support you lent to the program, and I particularly enjoyed working with the very efficient and dedicated LAC parents. They were a wonderful group to work with, and will remain friends forever. The kids are a super bunch, so I found the time spent with these personalities was tremendously rewarding. I would do it all over in a minute, if they hadn't all learned so well that they are more than ready for the next step. I wish all of you a safe and happy summer!

With many thanks ~ *Clair*

MAY 2010 AT DALHOUSIE COMMUNITY KINDERGARTEN

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
2	3	4 Kindergarten Society Meeting - 1 pm in class- room	5	6	7 Mother's Day Tea, 10:45 pm	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17 LAC Changeo- ver meeting - 7:30 pm	18	19 Orientation meeting for new students 1:30-2:30	20 Orientation meeting for new students 1:30-2:30	21 Organizational Day - no classes	22
23	24 Victoria Day - no classes	25	26 Bike rally	27	28 Last Bottle Drive	29
30 Year-end class inventory, 10 am	31 Yoga games day					

JUNE 2010 AT DALHOUSIE COMMUNITY KINDERGARTEN

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3 Butterfield Acres field trip, 9:30 - 1:30	4 Professional Day - no classes	5
6	7	8	9	10 Splash party (weather permit- ting)	11 Organizational Day - no classes	12
13 Mrs. Brown's 20th anniversary party!	14 Alternate Splash party date if poor weather on June 10th	15 Summer birth- day celebration	16 Summer birth- day celebration	17	18 Year-end cele- bration / Last day of school	19
20	21 Year-end class- room clean-up	22	23	24	25	26

GOOD BOOKS FOR ECS KIDS

A SELECTION OF MRS. BROWN'S FAVOURITES

1. "See How They Grow" books, some available as videos to rent
2. Cuddly Dudley, by Alborough (Penguin seeks peace)
3. Effie, by Allinson (Very loud little ant)
4. "Bear" book series, by Asch
5. Berenstain books, including The Berenstain's B Book, The B.B's Christmas Book, The Spooky Old Tree
6. Grandfather Twilight, by Berger (Watch art for moon to grow from pearl)
7. Big Sarah's Little Boots, by Bourgeois (Growing up)
8. A Wish for Wings that Work, by Breathed (My favourite Christmas tale - Opus)
9. The Last Basselope, by Breathed (Opus at it again - preservation of species)
10. Jan Brett books, including The Hat, The Mitten, Trouble with Trolls (Check for story/clues in margin art)
11. Toad, by Brown (Excellent descriptors, science too)
12. Piggybook, by Browne (Overworked mom, seek pig clues in art)
13. Stلالuna, by Cannon (Beautiful art - bat tries to act like birds)
14. Eric Carle books, including The Grouchy Ladybug, The Very Hungry Caterpillar, The Very Quiet Cricket, The Very Lonely Firefly
15. Now You See Them, Now You Don't, by Caumartin (Animal camouflage, humour in oblivious hunter)
16. In the Great Meadow, by Crease (If different species could be friends)
17. Eight O'Cluck, by Creighton (Humour - time progression)
18. Mr. Carey's Garden, by Cutler (See things in a different light)
19. Garbage Delight, by Dennis Lee (Very rhythmic poetry, fun)
20. The Rainbow Goblins, by deRico (Incredible art)
21. Crispin, the Pig Who Had it All, by deWan (Spoiled pig finding friends)
22. Room on the Broom, by Donaldson (Problem solving, friends)
23. Dr. Seuss books (Amazing art)
24. Dinorella, by Edwards (Alliterates 'D' throughout)
25. Some Smug Slug, by Edwards (Alliterates 'S' throughout)
26. Guess What?, by Fox (Humourous art)
27. Tough Boris, by Fox (Loss of pet)
28. Gackenbach books, including Claude the Dog, Dog for a Day, The Dog who had Kittens
29. Is That You, Winter?, by Gammell (Great free art)
30. Grandma and the Pirates, by Gilman
31. Yuck, a Love Story, by Gillmor (Boy tries everything to impress girl next door)
32. Two Greedy Bears, by Ginsberg (Selfishness means fox wins)
33. The Crocodile and the Dentist, by Gomi (Easy language, repetitive)
34. Small Green Snake, by Gray (A Peter Rabbit type of tale)
35. My Little Sister Ate one Hare, by Grossman (Humour, rhyming text)
36. Chocolate Moose for Dinner, by Gwynne (Pun Fun)
37. "Mr" and "Little Miss" books, by Hargraves (Can't figure why kids love these so!)
38. When the Cows Come Home, by Harrison (Rhythmic language)
39. There's a Dragon in my Sleeping Bag, by Howe (Big brother wants privacy)
40. Two so Small, by Hutchins (Concept - prepositions. Giant baby)
41. Wolf's Chicken Stew, by Kasza (Big Bad becomes Uncle Wolf)
42. The Day the Goose Got Loose, by Kellogg (Fall, wild vs. tame)
43. The Day Jimmy's Boa at the Wash, by Kellogg (Humour, chain of action)



- 44. Anansi and the Talking Melon, by Kimmel (African folk tale, the trickster)
- 45. Anansi and the Moss-Covered Rock, by Kimmel (African folk tale)
- 46. The Lion and the Little Red Bird, by Kleven (Great mystery, artist's tale)
- 47. Omar on Ice, by Kovalski (Finding best way to reach challenging goal)

- 48. Little Blue and Little Yellow, by Lionni (Concept - colour mixing)

- 49. A Colour of his Own, by Lionni (Chameleon finds confidence)

- 50. How I Became a Pirate, by Long



- 51. Brown Bear, Brown Bear, by Martin (Classic "kids can read it" book)

- 52. Mercer Mayer books, including A boy, a Dog and a Frog, Frog Goes to Dinner, A-Choo, Bubble Bubble

- 53. Guess How Much, by McBratney (Pop-up version too)

- 54. The Dark at the Top of the Stairs, by McBratney

- 55. Blueberries for Sal, by McCloskey (Dated, but a classic)

- 56. Rhinos for Lunch and Elephants for Supper, by Mollie (Little frog fools animals)

- 57. Sadie and the Snowman, by Morgan (Repetitive language, freeze/melt concept)

- 58. Robert Munsch books, including 50 Degrees Below Zero, Thomas's Snowsuit, I Have to Go, Ribbon Rescue, Mortimer, The Paper Bag Princess, Show and Tell, The Fire Station

- 59. Peace at Last, by Murphy (Repetitive, fun to make sounds)

- 60. Cat's Knees and Bee's Whiskers, by Nightingale (Fun art)

- 61. Winnie the Witch, by Paul (Connect colour and Halloween)

- 62. Dos and Dont's, by Parr (Kids find it funny, easy to read)

- 63. The Mommy Book, by Parr

- 64. Books by Bill Peet, including Wump World, Buford the Little Bighorn, The Ant and the Elephant

- 65. Wild Child, by Plourde (Mother Earth, beautiful art)

- 66. The Day the Babies Crawled Away, by Rathmann (Kid saves the day, great silhouette art)

- 67. Grandpa Dan's Toboggan Ride, by Reid (Cumulative, fun)

- 68. The Meat Eaters Arrive, by Reid (Dinosaurs)

- 69. Books by Shel Silverstein, including A Giraffe and a Half, Where the Sidewalk Ends, The Giving Tree

- 70. Don't Fidget a Feather, by Silverman (Competitiveness vs. help a friend)

- 71. Books by Jon Sziescka, including The Stinky Cheese Man; The Frog Prince, Continued; The True Story of the Three Little Pigs

- 72. Somebody and the Three Blairs, by Tolhurst (Reversed Goldilocks tale, added humour)

- 73. Three Little Wolves and the Big Bad Pig, by Trivizas (Strength doesn't win)

- 74. Bibi and the Bull, by Vaage (Simple farm tale based on true story)

- 75. Wombat Stew, by Vaughan (Rhythmic language)

- 76. Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good Very Bad Day, by Viorst (Feelings)

- 77. Alexander Who Used to be Rich Last Sunday, by Viorst (Math concepts)

- 78. The Mouse that Snored, by Waber (Wee mouse keeps house awake)

- 79. You Look Ridiculous, by Waber (Teasing, self concept)

- 80. Ira Sleeps Over, by Waber (First sleepover)

- 81. Owl Babies, by Waddell (Kids really identify with Bill)

- 82. Mouse Paint, by Walsh

- 83. I Spy books, by Wick (Search and find)

- 84. Hunter and his Dog, by Wildsmith (Anti gun)

- 85. Books by Audrey Wood, including Silly Sally, King Bidgood's in the Bathtub, Little Penguin's Tale

