

University of Alberta Child Study Centre Junior Kindergarten

February 2016

Special points of interest:

- For the Valentine's Day Party, please bring a class set of cards that have your child's name on them, but not their classmates' names
- Please help distribute our new Child Study Centre Junior Kindergarten cards

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Ready and Excited to Begin Another Inquiry!!!

And the winner is....Pets!

Jenn, Frieda and Ann listened carefully to the children during January and helped the children compile a list of topics they were interested in. Using one blue sticker to vote, the topic was chosen. The morning class had a close race between Star Wars and Pets.. The afternoon class, on the other hand, had a landslide victory for Pets. Consequently, we'll study Pets until the Celebration of Learning.

Please note, that Pets is our general topic, and now we'll be listening carefully to find out where the children's specific interests are. Many children wanted to continue studying bodies, so one possibility may be to study animal bodies.

We may also learn more about: house pets, Ninja Turtles, Paw Patrol, and/or Service Pets.



The children voted using their compiled list of topics .

As you know, inquiries are an exciting way to learn! Jenn has already located many wonderful books in the Coutts Library, and

we'll look forward to hearing stories about pets— real and imaginary!

With our inquiry topic being pets, please encourage your children to bring a show and share that is related. We will create a museum again, as it provides a safe and interesting way to share items brought from home. The museum also facilitates sharing between the morning and afternoon classes.

One more thing...we'll be looking for guest experts. If you know some one who works in a vet office, zoo , pet store, or animal shelter, etc. please ask if they'd be interested in visiting jk!! We'd like visitors in March.

YAHOO, LET'S LEARN ABOUT PETS!

Music With Frieda!!

Gung Hay Fat Choy! Happy Chinese New Year to all our families who are celebrating! We will learn about this holiday in music for the first part of February, and if anyone would like

to join us and share some of your family's traditions, that would be fantastic.

We will also be talking about **VOLUME** in music, which fits perfectly with all

those drums, cymbals and gongs that accompany dragon dances!

By the last week of the month our music classes will reflect more of the inquiry topic of pets!



Valentine's Day Party—Thursday, February 11th

Valentine's Day is a spectacular occasion to honor our classmates by bringing in a card for each of them. Store-bought or hand-made card are both thoughtful and perfect for sharing!

February will be a time of card-making and letter writing. The dramatic play area will be a Post Office, and the children will be encouraged to leave mail for their classmates and teachers. Everyone will have a mailbox that will be identified by a photo.

We will also explore stories and poetry that focus on relationships and feelings. The options are endless!

On Thursday, February 11th we'll celebrate with a party. The children should bring in a snack as usual. No special treats or cookies will be shared at snack time, but can be placed in mailboxes.

Please have your children bring in a class set of Valentine's cards. The morning class will need 23 and the afternoon 16. **Make sure**

only your child's name is written on these. When they arrive, they will bring their bag of cards into the class. With some teacher help, the children will place their cards into their classmates' mailboxes. This process will be most successful if the names of the classmates ARE NOT WRITTEN on the cards, just signed by the giver.

Thanks in advance for your help. This is an amazing authentic opportunity for your children to write their names over and over again. Be sure to start early !

“We'd like to leave or post our new cards where families go—Recreational Centers, programs, arenas etc.”

An Update on the Child Study Centre Junior Kindergarten

Dr. Anna Kirova has returned to the position of the Child Study Centre Junior Kindergarten Director. We have been blessed with great leadership while she was on sabbatical, and are delighted she's back!

Olivia Krol, our present Administration, will be starting a new job this month. We appreciate her contributions to the CSCJK and wish her all the best!

Thank you in advance for being patient while we locate someone to work as our Administration.

OPEN HOUSE—FEB 18 6-7:30

We will be hosting an open house for families interested in learning more about the Child Study Centre Junior Kindergarten.

Please help us spread the word about this evening by

talking to families that may be interested, or distributing cards we'll be getting back from the printer. Ideally, we'd like to leave these cards in areas families go— Recreational centers, children's programs, Hockey Arenas etc. In addition, if you work on or near campus, please consider posting a card at your work. We'll leave some cards at the entry, please help yourself!!



Jenn totals the children's votes showing their preferred winter activities.

Last month at JK I learned so much! Now I can ...

I can share my ideas in class

I can contribute to a class vote by placing a sticker to indicate my preference

I can relate feelings to colors: blue = "slow"

Green = "just right"

Yellow = "fast"

Red = "Out of Control"

I am beginning to understand that when I am "out of control", I may be making others feel uncomfortable or unsafe

I am beginning to understand that I can help others feel "just right " by sharing a smile, wave, hug, or kind words

I am beginning to understand that actions like bunny

breathing, read books, drawing, listening to music, and having time alone can help me just right

I realize we have been at JK for 70+ days and we are getting closer to the 100th day

I may be able to recognize: G, g, H, h, S, s, Q, and q

I should practice making

How to Help Your Child Have a Successful Bedtime

Alyson Jiron, Brooke Brogje & Jill Giacomini: adapted by The GRIT Program

Infants and young children need 10 to 12 hours of sleep daily to support healthy development. Parents also need to feel rested to be nurturing and responsive to their growing and active young children.

When your child does not get enough sleep, challenging behaviors are more likely to occur. Your child might get more easily frustrated, get upset more quickly, and be unable to engage well in interactions with others. Lack of sleep can also have a negative impact on your child's ability to learn. When

a young child sleeps, her body is busy developing new brain cells that she needs for her physical, mental and emotional development. Babies and young children thrive on predictability and learn from repetition. It is important to establish a bedtime routine that you and your child both understand and helps everyone to feel calm and relaxed.

Suggestions for Families

Notice your child's signs of sleepiness.

A picture schedule can help your child understand the

steps and expectations of the routine.

Provide your child with activities, sounds or objects that help her feel calm and restful during the hour before bedtime.

Tell your child what will happen when she wakes up.

Give your child your undivided and unrushed attention as you prepare her

More details about these suggestions for families are described on the attached handout.



Did you know your bones grow while a child sleeps?

Celebration of Learning

Wow, in just a few weeks it will be time for our second Celebration of Learning!

Please ensure a trusted adult will be able to attend Junior Kindergarten with your child on Thursday, March 24, 2016 during your scheduled time, listed below.

9:00-10:00

Andy, Arianna, Dalton, Micah, Coraline, Kenneth, Penny, Lingkhaam, Nixon

10:15-11:15

Violet, Lilianna, Amyrah, Andrew, Cheyenne, Naomi, Maya, Alexander

12:30-1:30

Liisa, Maia, Fandui, Ginny, Maia, Gavin

1:45-2:45

Baylee, Mohsin, Arwen, Milan, Duncan

Field Visit Telus World of Science

Field Visit to Telus World of Science on Thursday, February 18th.

Time: 9:30-11:30

1:00-3:00

Address: 11211 142 Str NW

Program: The Cold Factor

"Student will explore through station activities, ways in which humans, plants and animals prepare themselves for cold weather."

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Child Study Centre JK Connects with U of A & Grant MacEwan

GUEST READERS

Many faculty members venture into JK to read to our children mid month. In January, **Dr. Maryanne Doherty**, the Interim Chair of Elementary Education, read to the afternoon class. In February, **Dr. Lynn McGarvey** will read to the morning class.

We think our program and young learners are AWESOME and are eager to share them!

RESEARCH IN OUR CLASS

Dr. Lynn McGarvey, a Math professor, will be conducting research at JK. Her project is titled *Noticing Opportunities for Mathematical Interactions in the Preschool Classroom*.

Our class routines will be video taped six times between now and March to help us become increasingly aware of how math concepts are and could be embedded into JK routines and learning.

Dr. Anna Kirova will be visiting our class to better understand our program. She is organizing a Certificated Early Childhood Education Program that will begin September 2016, and is figuring how the two programs can work together.

Grant MacEwan Student

We *may* have an Early Learning and Child Care Program Student join us Feb 8-12 and Mar 14-April 8, 2016

Child Study Centre Junior Kindergarten

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ADMINISTRATION OFFICE:

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*Child Study Centre ~ A love of
learning grows here.*

The University of Alberta Child Study Centre has been an integral part of the Department of Elementary Education, Faculty of Education since 1969. From its inception, the mandate of the Child Study Centre has been to provide early childhood educators with a model of contemporary, research-informed early childhood education practices, as well as to provide a site for both undergraduate and graduate students along with faculty members and researchers to further the field of early childhood theory and practice. The current leadership and teaching staff of the Centre are proud to continue this tradition and build on the history and strengths of the Centre to create a cutting edge early learning environments for the children and their families and to promote practice-based theories of early childhood education. In 2013, the CSC was selected as an affiliated site for the province wide initiative, funded by Alberta Education and Alberta Human services: Alberta Early learning and Child Care Curriculum framework.

View Weekly Blog Posts
<http://uofajk.weebly.com>

Important Dates to Remember



Remember to record
these dates in your
calendar or day-timer!

<i>Thursday, Feb 4</i>	<i>Ann's Children Volunteer</i>
Mon—Fri Feb 8-11	Grant MacEwan Student?
<i>Wednesday, Feb 10</i>	<i>Guest Readers</i>
Thursday, Feb 11	Valentine's Day Party
<i>Monday, Feb 15</i>	<i>JK CLOSED—Family Day</i>
Thursday, Feb 18	Telus World of Science
<i>Thurs, Feb 18 6-730pm</i>	<i>Open House for 2016-17</i>
Thurs & Fri, Feb 22 & 23	CLOSED A&J at Conference
<i>Wednesday, March 16</i>	<i>Zoo Field Visit</i>
Thurs, March 24	Celebration of Learning
<i>March 28-April 2</i>	<i>CLOSED—Spring Recess</i>