

# The Growing Times

October 2023

## Dates

October 2 - Centre Closed, Day in Lieu of National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

October 3 - Picture Day!

October 9 - Centre Closed, Thanksgiving



## Reminders & Updates

- **Picture Day Tuesday Oct. 3. If you miss you can do retakes at Lightbox's main office. Please see [www.lightboxcs/bookings](http://www.lightboxcs/bookings) for available dates and times.**
- **Please have seasonally appropriate clothing in children's cubby. Also extra clothes and outdoor wear.**

## News from the Rooms

### Room 1

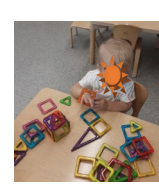
September felt like a quick month for Room 1! We have been very busy with exploring new interests and enjoying our daily adventure walks in the mornings. We discovered a great spot for our friends to explore in the outdoors near Bow Valley Pathway. Room 1's interests are expanding each day, our friends are interested in sensory play, colours, puzzles, fine motor play with pompoms, sticks, as well as loose parts like boxes, containers, and pine cones to help support in expanding their play ideas. Some of our favourite action songs right now are 'Sleepy Bunnies' and 'Freeze Dance'. Our friends have been enjoying our new library area, where they're finding interests in multiple books like; Brown Bear and 'Down By the Bay'.

A couple of new changes have begun this month, Music class has started back up! We have a new stand on tower in our room for our friends to stand on and look out the window. We also now have a new fenced area for Room 1 in our playground. We welcomed new friends Pippa, Henry, and Sophie to Room 1. We are slowly saying our farewells to Beau, Teddy, and Weston as they're transitioning to Room 2.



### Room 2

Where did the summer go? The weather is turning colder and leaves are beginning to fall. With the starting of Fall we are eagerly waiting for Halloween now. Fall is the perfect time to see the beauty of nature at it's best and to learn and discuss topics like pumpkins, ghosts, weather, and Halloween costumes. We are celebrating Julie's birthday this month. We are saying good-bye to June as she is moving to Room 3.



## From the Board:

Following the very unfortunate E. coli outbreak that impacted multiple daycares across Calgary, we wanted to share how much we value Sysco as the Centre's food service provider in terms of their commitment to providing safe and quality food products for the children.

Sysco's process for product flow from receiving, through storage, and loading onto delivery trucks is engineered to maintain product temperature as close to ideal as possible to maximize food safety and quality. Once on delivery trucks, temperature is maintained by a fleet of multi compartment refrigerated trailers. Drivers monitor temperature throughout the delivery to ensure food safety and product quality are maintained.

An ICDC parent survey was completed in August with 30 (anonymous) responses received. The main purpose was to learn more about family routines and impacts of parking changes to the Centre. The overall findings support the majority of drop-off and pick-up times occurring within a 90-minute timeframe (7:30-9:00am & 4:00-5:30pm). Most respondents indicated they had not had issues with parking previously.

A letter is being drafted by the ICDC Board to send to the ACS Director (Debbie Short) summarizing parent feedback along with support from the City Planning documentation. Stay tuned!

### Room 3

Happy October! September was such a welcoming month full of playful learning, fun & excitement. We welcome families of Orlando, Oakland, Ollie & Luke to our room. We spent most of September in establishing a routine, following it, forming relationships, and getting to know the children to build a secure environment for them. Based on their interests, we created lots of open ended activities for them to explore and learn. We read books and sang songs to make our munchkins comfortable and help with transitions, as well as learning about their feelings. Their favourites this month were "Grumpy Monkey" and "Number One Sam". The song they particularly enjoyed singing was "Hurry, Hurry, Drive the Firetruck." The science experiment we did with vinegar and baking soda was a big hit among the children. We also worked on their fine motor and social skills.

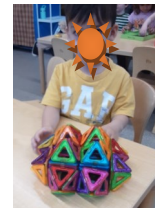
In October we will explore and learn about Thanksgiving, and Halloween celebrations. The activities will be based around these themes. Please check our HiMama updates to know about the playful learning and observations. - Anita & Ms. Bibi



## News from the Rooms

### Room 4

This past month the children have been very focused on transportation. In the block area and outside they would build vehicles and planes to operate. They made train tracks all over the classroom. We had two tables set up with vehicle related activities; a construction site and roads made out of painters tape. The children were able to use smaller blocks to build structures to add to any of their road or train systems. We are excited to have Zoe (from Room 5) spend the next little while in Room 4 for sharing and growing of practices.



### Room 5

Hello Fall! The children in Room 5 have now been with us for a month or some a little longer and have all nicely settled into our routine and expectations and building on their casual and close friendships with one another! They have all been showing us the mighty learners they are through exploring a variety of play spaces and provocations in their own ways. This past month the children enjoyed our dramatic play area which was a house, preparing and cooking meals for each other. We have now turned our dramatic play into a vet area as we observed many of them crawling around playing dogs and animals. They have been enjoying manipulating the variety of tools that vets use to help the animals in need. The children have expressed interest in letter activities and we have been finding ways to add in literacy into their play. Some of the group letter games they have been enjoying is called KABOOM, the letter monster, and finding their name tags during meal times. Many of the children have really shown us they enjoy sensory activities. This past month we had an ice cube frozen pompom sensory bin, kinetic sand and a magnetic letter water bin. Our discovery table was an apple discovery, leaves brought in from the outdoors, and a cutting bin. Our loose parts table was using faces to represent a variety of emotions using the loose parts and we also had a bead tree where they added beads to the branches. There is always something for the children to look forward to and explore in new ways! During group time we have been reading social and emotional books helping guide children through preschool type situations and tools they can use for solving problems. We have also have a stuffed puppet named 'Mike the Chicken' that likes to come out and join our group time to learn our classroom rules, the children like helping Mike understand how to be a great friend in our class! We have started our individual learning stories again and these will be posted above each child's cubbies with a play observation with how it relates to the Alberta FLIGHT curriculum. This month we have a new friend Josep joining our class and we will be celebrating Willa's and Slade's birthday. We are excited to welcome Shamshad (from Room 4). She will be spending some time in Room 5 for sharing and growing practices.

