

The Growing Times

February 2023



Dates & Reminders

Board Meeting Feb 21 @ 8:30pm on Microsoft Teams

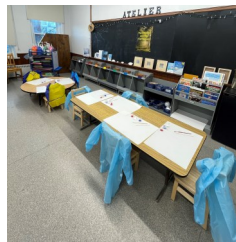
February 20 - Family Day, Centre closed

March 10 - PD Day, Centre closed

March 20 & 21 - Casino

Meet Kim in the Atelier

We welcomed one of our newer team members; Kim just before our Winter break. Kim previously ran a day home for 13 years and has completed the FLIGHT program through MacEwan University. Kim is a Team Support so will be moving around rooms (which she is excited about) and she has been drawn to the Atelier. She has organized it and focused on doing Atelier time with the children from each class. If you have any clean recycled materials we are happy to have them brought to the Atelier to use as loose parts and creative materials.



A Few New Faces

Families may notice some new staff. Apart from Kim we also welcome Melissa, who is joining Amy down in Room 5. Harneet in Room 4 is moving on to work with the CBE. Therefore starting Monday February 6 Shamshad will be joining Raheela in Room 4!

Need to label your child's supplies and clothing?

You can do so and support ICDC!

Go to www.mabelslabels.ca. Once you have chosen your items go to your cart and click on Support Fundraiser and type in Inglewood Child Development Centre.



mabel's labels

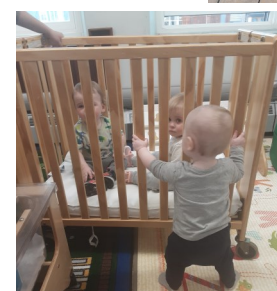
News from the Rooms

Room 1

We have new babies that we welcomed for this month! We got to know them and slowly introduced them to their new environment. Part of our focus this month is developing their gross motor coordination. We encourage them to participate in various activities to help strengthen their muscles. Another important factor is to motivate them to believe that they can do it. The movement of the arms, legs and torso plays a crucial role in future activities like running, jumping or other activities. As it is a more complex skill, development among children varies in outcome. But we will continue to support them in any way we can.

We are singing 'Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes' and the ever popular 'Sleeping Bunnies'. We are reading a lot of 'Brown Bear, Brown Bear'.

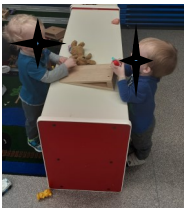
Advance happy family day! Enjoy having these lil ones, as time passes quickly.



News from the Rooms

Room 2

Happy Valentine season. Even though February is the shortest month of the year, we have so much going on! With the fun of Valentine's Day, it is also the international month of friendship. We already, in Room 2, have prepared so many loving activities and art ideas. We are also adding Valentine and friendship books to our classroom library. We are going to miss our lovely kids Simon and Harriet as they have moved to Room 3. We welcome Luke and June coming from Room 1, and Oakland who has just joined ICDC! For Valentine's Day please send your child dressed in a red shirt. We will send out a list for Valentine's cards.



Room 4

The children have shown interest in train safety and trains. So they got a chance to set up train tracks on the carpet, around the round and rectangular tables. We have been supporting this exploration with open ended art using paint to print railway tracks, design tracks for trains using construction paper and glue. During transitions we line up like train cars and count then pretend to be a train moving out of the classroom. We have been singing 'Down By the Station' and 'The Wheels of the Train Go Round and Round'. Books related to this interest that they particularly enjoy are 'Freight Trains' and 'Thomas and Friends'.



Room 3

Wow! It is already February! Where did the time go? Throughout January we spent a lot of time learning about community helpers, family, and the cold weather. We did art and activities related to these topics and the children enjoyed exploring their interests and creativity. We also worked on developing their fine motor skills like grasping, holding, and using pincer grasp. During our Storytime, we talked about feelings and using words when expressing them. Our munchkins were also engaged in music, their current favourite is 'Hurry, Hurry, Drive the Firetruck'. We read books on community helpers and they loved the book 'Fred the Firefighter'. February is a short month but one packed full of learning as we go forward with our goals filled with fun and engaging activities. Ellis celebrated his 3rd birthday with us. Wishing him best wishes and a happy journey.








Please remember to always have proper outdoor clothing and extra changes of clothing for your child everyday. Any concern, please don't hesitate to contact us. Thank you for being part of our ICDC family!

Room 5

This month we celebrated Chinese New Year, year of the hare. The children were really interested in learning more about the holiday and the customs of another country. We told the story of the great race and how the creatures in the Chinese Zodiac found their place. The 12 animals participating were: The Rat, Ox, Tiger, Rabbit, Dragon, Snake, Horse, Sheep, Rooster, Monkey, Dog, and the Pig. There was also a cat, but sadly, he was tricked out of his place by the rat. The children were excited to learn which animal they were and these animals were later used in a game of charades. We also practiced some fine motor skills as they used tweezers to pull their cards from the basket. We created a variety of Chinese art for the holiday as well, including kumquat trees, Chinese lanterns, fans, fireworks, and Chinese pellet drums. The children loved exploring the Feng Shui coins we put out in the classroom and were especially excited when they received some coins, along with candy, in their hong baos (red envelopes). They learned some new Chinese songs and phrases that are used during the holiday and were enthusiastic about trying them out. The children also learned about the letters E, F, and G and reviewed all the letters and their corresponding words from A-F using the mystery box. Children got to pull out an item and had to decide which letter the word started with. Each week they are eager to find out what's inside the mystery box.

Updates from the Board



 <p>Cowboys Casino 421 12 Ave SE Monday March 20th & Tuesday March 21st</p>	<p>Casino</p> <p>As a non-profit center, the Casino is a HUGE source of income for our annual operating budget and is vital for long term sustainability and quality programming.</p> <p>Each Casino can bring in between \$30,00 to \$50,000 for the Centre.</p> <p>As per the Parent Handbook:</p> <p>Each family is required to provide one volunteer (it can be anyone you have provided to cover your shift) to work a minimum of one (8hour) shift at our casino.</p> <p>Family participation is mandatory and failure to meet this requirement may result in termination of care with 30 days written notice.</p> <p>If you haven't signed up already for a shift for our upcoming casino, please do so ASAP.</p> <p>Casino Coordinator: Caleb Delamont, at 403-614-3115 or at calebdelamont@gmail.com</p>
	<p>Smell</p> <p>No, that wonderful aroma that hit you as you walked into the Center was not dirty diapers. It was an issue possibly related to construction of the new sewer line underground near the center. The City and Alexandra Centre are working together to eliminate that smell. You might have noticed, or not noticed, that it has been much better</p>
	<p>App's & Communication</p> <p>The Center has switched over to a new app Timesavr as opposed to HiMama. It was noted that Parents are feeling less connected and missing the photos. Feedback is welcome and will also be communicated to the app developer.</p> <p>**UPDATE: After a few weeks of working with Timesavr ICDC has decided to return to using HiMama for reports.</p>
	<p>Discipline Communication</p> <p>The Educators are doing some great work around areas of conflict and redirecting undesired behavior. We have asked that this information also be shared to help reinforce these wonderful skills.</p>
	<p>Parent's Handbook</p> <p>The Parent's Handbook has had an initial update and is currently being reviewed. There is opportunity for additional parent input on this document. If this is something that is of interest to you, please let us know.</p>
	<p>Cubbies</p> <p>Room 5 does not have a full set of proper cubbies like upstairs, and we are looking into getting that room actual cubbies as opposed to the wall hooks and benches.</p>
	<p>Surveys</p> <p>There are currently two surveys in the works: One for Staff and one for Parents. The Parent survey will be an opportunity for us to connect and allow you to provide feedback.</p>
<p>Committee's</p> <p>In addition to the board, there are also committees. We always welcome eager volunteers who want to join a committee or take on a specific project.</p>	
<p>Casino We are looking for our future Casino Coordinator.</p> <p>Finance & Investment Helps manage and make decisions about the finances. Supports the Treasurer</p> <p>Marketing</p>	<p>Playground The Alexandra Centre wants to get a new playground built.</p> <p>Parent Engagement Other Opportunities Does someone want to set up Google Drive for the Board?</p>
<p>Questions, Comments, Concerns? Please reach out: Erin Joslin, President icdcboardsecretary@gmail.com</p>	
<p>Parents are welcome to attend monthly meetings of the Board of Directors</p> <p>Join Us! Next Meeting Online February 21 @8:30 pm</p> <p>Look for an email from Tami with the Link</p>	