



WATERLOO CO-OPERATIVE PRESCHOOL | 2024

FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER

LET'S TALK ABOUT FEELINGS!



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A NOTE FROM THE EDUCATORS

This month is Valentine's Day and we're talking about our feelings, families, and friendships. We have some fun activities, books, and songs in store for the children and we are looking forward to another month of fun and learning here at Waterloo Co-Op. We're so happy you are here!

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We acknowledge that our preschool is situated on the land that is the traditional home of the Chonnonton, Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabe peoples. We extend our respect to all First Nations, Metis and Inuit peoples for their past and present contributions to this land. We also recognize their enduring presence and deep traditional knowledge and philosophies with whom we share this land today.

CURRICULUM

UPCOMING CLASSROOM DEVELOPMENTS & TOPICS

We are continuing our educational journey learning about the five senses. The children are learning about sight, hearing, taste, smell, and feel. It's also feelings and friendships month! We will have a Feelings Festival and talk about friendship, love, and family as well as a building unit.

BOOKS

This month we will be reading *The Mitten* and doing a book study on it. We will also focus on books about feelings.

SONGS & GAMES

We will be singing *Sleeping Bunnies, Head, Shoulders, Knees, & Toes, Wheels on the bus*

VALENTINE'S DAY POEM

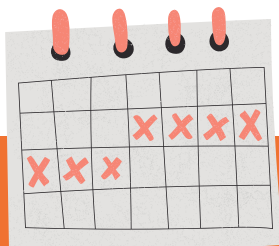
Valentines of pink and red, special words of kindness said, Small surprises, funny jokes, paper hearts and friendly notes.

The best part of this happy day, is that I get the chance to say, Today and for the whole year too, I'm glad to have a friend like you!



In our KP classes, we will be supporting confidence in speaking in front of a group by starting our show/tell and share activities for those who feel comfortable to tell stories about things that are of interest to them, or show to their peers and describe during group time. Please allow the KP children to bring things from home that they want to show or tell about. Please allow your child to bring something relatively small, should they wish to do so.

To all families: If a special event is happening around home please be sure to inform the teachers so we can celebrate alongside you! Family engagement and fostering responsive relationships is very important to us. Please maintain open communication with the teachers so we can be accommodating, engaging and responsive to the unique needs and interests of your family and child.



IMPORTANT DATES

- **February 17** - Random Act of Kindness Day
- **February 19** - Family Day CLOSED
- **February 20** - Board Meeting, 6:30pm
- **March Break** - March 11-15 CLOSED
- **Good Friday** - March 29 CLOSED
- **Easter Monday** - April 1 CLOSED
- **Victoria day** - May 20 CLOSED
- **Last Day of Classes** - June 20,21

Encouraging emotional health with healthy phrases.

Instead of saying	try saying
Big kids don't cry.	→ I can see you're upset, and that's OK.
There's nothing to be scared of!	→ You're feeling scared. I'm here with you.
Don't be sad. Be happy.	→ I'm sorry you're feeling sad. Do you want to talk about it?
It's not nice to get mad.	→ It's OK to feel angry, but it's not OK to hurt others with words or actions.
Don't worry about it.	→ It looks like you're worried. Do you want to take deep breaths with me to calm down?




Children are practicing getting undressed in PS when coming in from outdoors and/or getting dressed at the end of the day to go outside. We do hope to get outside more so please continue to bring full outdoor wear each day so your child is warm and comfortable on the days we do venture out. It is equally as helpful if you can enable your child to be independent, dressing in ways in which they are capable of. Please see the email resources sent out recently on dressing, toileting and other activities that can be done to support development.

RANDOM ACT OF KINDNESS DAY

February 17 is Random Acts of Kindness Day - I wonder what random acts of kindness we will see around the Preschool this month.

February brings us fun times with Valentine's Day during our Friendship Festival. Please remember that we do not give out candy during this time. Instead, we promote literacy and use pencils to write our names and make things for others. We encourage children to have fun making Valentines for their peers. Teachers will be giving out class lists to KindePrep classes and our other classes are encouraged to simply write "To a friend" and sign their own name to give out a Valentine to all of their peers. We will have mailboxes that the children make so they can deliver their small cards to all their friends. No candy please. We will have fun focusing on letter sounds, and the letters G, O, U, L, F.

Friendship, friendship skills, and feelings are our main focus this month.



As always, please do not hesitate to reach out to the teaching team! If you wish for a parent meeting (via Zoom) or want to discuss any concerns or suggestions. Please contact: waterloopreschool.teacher@gmail.com

WELCOME NEW FAMILIES

Please ensure your child has a pair of shoes to be kept at school that fit and are easy to get on. Your child who attends the afternoon classes should also bring a clean tupperware or plastic food container for which they will practice opening and closing to ready themselves for school next year! They will also need a reusable water bottle with their name on it with water only, or empty for us to fill. Parents please be sure to always add your child's full name and class they are in when communicating anything with the preschool staff or board members to help keep things organized. All payments must include the child's name. Please remember if your child is sick or have any cold or flu symptoms they need to stay at home until they are fever free for 24 hours. If your child is going to be absent please remember to fill out our [Reason for absence form.](#)

BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, February 20 @ 6:30pm is our next board meeting! Join us to stay in the know.

FAMILY PHOTO

The children love seeing a familiar face in our classroom! Please send your family picture to Teacher Patty ([waterloopreschool.asstteacher@gmail.com](mailto:asstteacher@gmail.com)) so we can add your photo to our Preschool Community Board. We strive to create a welcoming environment and a sense of community.

SUPPORT STUDENTS

Please welcome our University and College students who are completing their placements with us from late January until early April. Supervisor Tracey and Assistant Supervisor Patty will mentor these students and help prepare them for their future, while the students provide support to the team! Students, volunteers and support staff do NOT count in ratio and are always under the supervision of the head teachers.

Laurier Students

Room #1

Monday PM - Kevin
Tuesday PM - Kailee
Wednesday AM - Beatrice
Wednesday PM - Lauren G
Thursday AM - Laiba
Thursday PM - Emily
Friday AM - Sophia
Friday PM - Emma L

Room #2

Monday AM - Lauren O
Monday PM - Riley
Tuesday AM - Paige
Tuesday PM - Julia
Wednesday AM - Ella, Ben, Aroya
Thursday AM - Nathan
Thursday PM - Stephanie
Friday AM - Emma K

ECE Students

Room #1

Monday & Tuesday - Fatima
Thursday & Friday - Aayushma

Room #2

Monday & Tuesday - Parampreet
Thursday & Friday - Tahira

We have an additional ECE student named Katrina James from Algonquin College, and she will be with us for her entire placement every day until the end of February.



REGISTRATION FOR FALL 2024

Early September 2024 registration opens in **March** for families already enrolled in WCP. Be sure to watch for your pre-reg form in your inbox and sign up to be guaranteed a spot in the program of your choice!

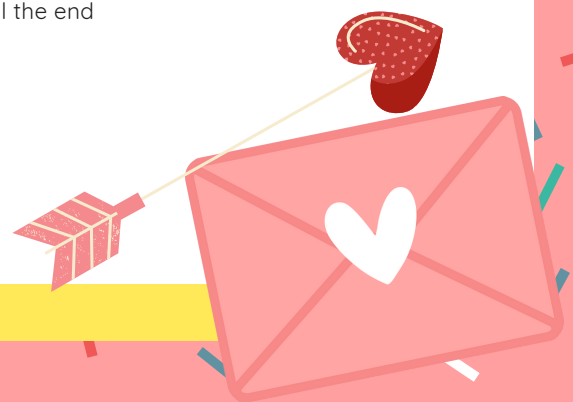
CLOTHING LABELS

Please label everything your child brings to school. This will help teachers keep track of personal items and return anything that may be misplaced.

We fundraise with the help of [Lovable Labels](#). 20% of your order supports the preschool!

SCHOLASTIC BOOKS

Scholastic book orders are back again this year! Flyers will be sent home from school, or, you can order any time online through [Scholastic Canada](#). Be sure to use our classroom code **(RC167028)** so that the preschool earns 20% in rewards to purchase new books and items for the classroom.





PRESCHOOL COOK BOOK

We want to connect with our families and build a further sense of community by putting together a Preschool Cook Book.

Please email your child's favourite recipe so we can add at least one recipe per child to Assistant Supervisor Patty (waterloopreschool.asstteacher@gmail.com).

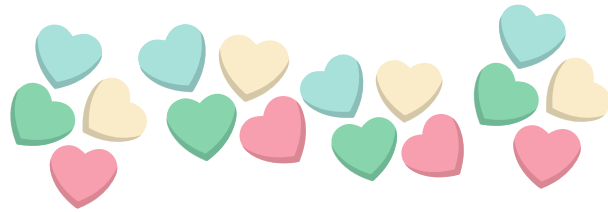
Patty will put this keepsake together for you and is eager to add your family's favourite recipe to this diverse cookbook!



PARENT ENGAGEMENT

Parent Engagement and Responsive relationships are a top priority this year for the Staff. Another priority is using the environment as our 3rd teacher. Staff are embracing nature and engaging with nature as much as we can. We will spend the rest of this year using the environment as the 3rd teacher, meaning providing intentional activities for the children to explore and gain a love for learning in a natural environment.

You will hopefully see more and more nature in our daily world!



THINGS TO DO AROUND THE COMMUNITY

The [Kitchener Public Library \(KPL\)](#) and [Waterloo Public Library \(WPL\)](#) offer free children's events.

[EarlyON Centres](#) offer free classes and play spaces for children.

[Classes and lessons from the region of Waterloo.](#)

[Cambridge Butterfly Conservatory.](#)

[Play-a-Latte - Indoor playground and café](#)

[KW Moms Club](#)

[Paid soccer classes with Little Kickers](#)

We are looking for parents/caregivers who play an instrument and would be willing to play some music and share their instruments with their child's class. We would plan to have you come for the last 1/2 hour of class, play a few songs and then have the children learn about your instrument through hands-on exploration if possible. All levels are welcome. Please contact _____ if you are interested.

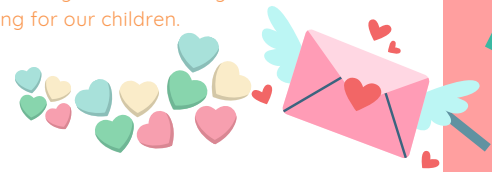
SPONSORSHIP CORNER

A warm thank you to our sponsors for sponsoring Waterloo Co-operative Preschool! Your generous funding will allow us to provide great programming, fun field trips, and hands-on learning for our children.

RESILIENCE WELLNESS CLINIC

Our goal is to provide you with a personal and positive Massage Therapy experience and educate you with proper home care so that you have the tools to achieve and maintain your most optimal health.

<https://www.facebook.com/resiliencewellnessclinic>



KELLY REALTY GROUP

An advertisement for Kelly Realty Group. It features a blue header with the company name "KELLY REALTY GROUP". Below the header is a paragraph of text describing the company's family-oriented, client-focused service. To the right of the text is a photo of two realtors, Samantha Kelly and Paul Kelly. Below the photo is the company logo, which includes the text "Pursue Your Peak" and "PEAK REALTY LTD. BROKERAGE". At the bottom right, contact information for Samantha Kelly and Paul Kelly is provided, including phone numbers and email addresses.

Family oriented , client focused, results driven - Over 30 years of trusted service in Waterloo Region & surrounding areas. As a father & daughter team with traditional values, we strive for the highest quality in our service. We believe in providing knowledge & excellence to our clients to allow them to make educated decisions when it comes to their real estate ventures. We look forward to helping you make your real estate dreams a reality!

Samantha Kelly, Realtor®
519.616.2930
asalebysamantha@yahoo.com

Paul Kelly, Broker
519.212.1200
pkelly139@yahoo.com
www.peakrealtytd.com

Pursue Your Peak
PEAK
REALTY LTD.
BROKERAGE
250-450 Conestoga Rd., Waterloo, ON N2L 6E2

PHONICS DAD

At WCP, we support early reading skills in many ways. New this year, we're partnering with Phonics Dad to help parents reinforce these skills at home. With fun and engaging tips and tricks, Phonics Dad shows parents how to introduce Phonics to children as young as 3. Use promo code WCP2023 for 20% off. WCP also gets back 20% of every sale using that promo code, so share with friends & family. For more information, follow @PhonicsDad on Instagram or talk to our staff.





Help us
continue to make
WCP a
Place to Grow

Want to sponsor a great organization in your community?

Waterloo Co-operative Preschool is looking for sponsors to help us continue to nurture the inquisitive minds of tomorrow! Choose one of our sponsorship levels or donate the amount of your choice for a tax receipt.

Bronze \$200
Company name & description in our newsletter & on our website

Silver \$350
Company name & description in our newsletter, on our website, promotion via social media stories

Gold \$450
Company name & description in our newsletters, on website, promotion on social media via stories & grid post

Platinum \$600+
Company name & description in our newsletter, on website, promotion via social media, company logo included on our banners

Contact our President for more information:
waterloopreschool.president@gmail.com

