



WATERLOO CO-OPERATIVE PRESCHOOL | 2024

MARCH NEWSLETTER

LET'S BUILD TOGETHER!



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A NOTE FROM THE EDUCATORS

In March we will have lots of fun!

First, we would like to send a warm welcome out to many new members who have recently joined the preschool! We hope you enjoy your experience here at Waterloo Co-Operative. We encourage you to maintain open communication with the teachers throughout the year via Zoom or email.

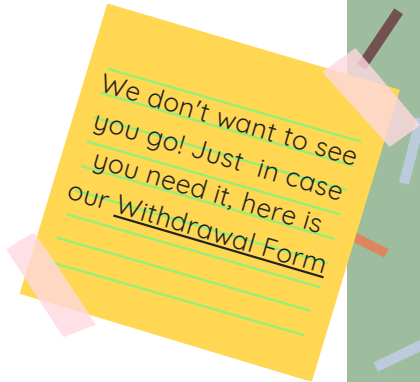
Please look back on old newsletters and [board meeting minutes](#) found on our website to keep up to date on what's going on at Waterloo Co-Operative Preschool.

Our [Parent Handbook](#) is also available online and parents are required to be familiar with this document and our policies.

Please ensure your child has a pair of shoes that fit, that are easy to put on, and can be kept at school. If you have a child who attends the afternoon KP class, they should also bring a clean Tupperware for which they will practice opening and closing to ready themselves for school this fall! They will also need a reusable water bottle with their name on it with water only.

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.



WINDS OF MARCH POEM

**Winds of March we welcome you,
There is work for you to do.
Work and play and blow all day,
Blow the winter cold away.**



CURRICULUM

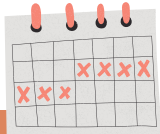
CLASSROOM DEVELOPMENTS & PROVOCATIONS

Staff will continue to support children with their unique goals and objectives to help foster their development and skills.

Cutting and pencil grip, fine motor, and name recognition will continue to be supported when the children find interest in them. We will encourage full body development from gross motor to fine motor, social emotional and cognitive skills.

Friendship skills will continue to be fostered as new relationships are blossoming! Staff scaffold and role model positive interactions and aid children in entrance to play skills.

Over the next couple months, we will be noticing random acts of kindness. We will try to catch the children in the act of offering a nice word, a helping hand, or compliment. We will acknowledge and encourage everyone to 'Explore the Good' and 'Make Kindness the Norm'. Tune into kindness, spread kindness in the simplest ways, and be a bucket filler!



IMPORTANT DATES

- March 7 & 8 - Pjama Day
- March 10 - Daylight Saving Time Begins, Spring Ahead!
- March 11-15 - March Break
- March 17 - St. Patrick's Day
- March 18- Early Enrollment Fall
- March 19- First Day of Spring
- March 19 - Board meeting @ 6:30pm
- March 25 - Holi



The children find interest in buildings and structures on their walks around the block and take photos to use as a model after March Break. Once we return children will use popsicle sticks, sugar cubes and glue, and continue to study buildings in our immediate area as well as pictures from around the world. It will be interesting to see how the children plan, create, reflect and recreate their structures and the process they go through to get to their end product. Here's a fun video called Let's Build a House. We will talk about feelings and emotions throughout the rest of this month and next. In April we will explore our senses (sight, hearing, taste, smell, feel) . We will embrace Spring and the animals and birds that we often find at this time of year such as bunnies and egg activities!

SONGS & GAMES

The children love to use rhythm sticks to learn new songs like 'This Old Man'. We will sing 'Mr. Knickerbocker' and 'Jellyfish'

Songs the children have showed interest in learning are 'Freeze Dance' and 'What's Missing' games. Please watch for other updates and fun things that will pop up that we find interest the children. Some outdoor games include 'Going on a Bear Hunt', 'Duck, Duck, Goose', and 'What Time is it Mister Wolf'.

BOOKS

The children continue to show interest in books such as The Mitten, The Three Little Pigs and Jack and the Beanstalk.

JOLLY PHONICS

Here is the set of Jolly Phonics for the school year:

- s, a, t, i, p, n.
- ck, e, h, r, m, d.
- g, o, u, l, f, d.
- j, z, w, v,
- y, x,



7 TIPS TO KEEP READING FUN THE WHOLE YEAR



1.

READ A BOOK TOGETHER

Choose a book that your kids like and read it together



VISIT THE LIBRARY

Make a habit of visiting the library with your kids and set a good example



2.

3.

BEDTIME-ISH

If the book your child is reading is holding their attention, let them dive deeper

GET SUPPORT

Engage with your teachers first then check with some specialists or your family doctor



4.

5.

LET THEM CHOOSE

When it comes to reading, always harness the power of excitement

CREATE A READING AREA

A dedicated corner or nook can help kids develop the habit of reading



6.

7.

DEMONSTRATE GOOD HABITS

If your kids don't see you reading, it can be difficult to convince them to do so



UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES

- March Break - March 11-15
- Good Friday- March 29
- Easter Monday - April 1
- April 9 - Eid al Fitr
- May 12 - Mothers Day
- Victoria Day - May 20
- June 14 - Flag day, bring a flag, or a picture of your flag!
- June 16 - Fathers Day
- June 21 - first day of summer
- Last week of classes - June 17-21

If a special event is happening at 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 interests of your family and child.

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. Twenty percent of your order supports the preschool!

SCHOLASTIC BOOKS

Please watch for Scholastic Book flyers to 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 we can earn 20 percent in rewards to purchase new books and items for the classroom.

REGISTER FOR FALL 2024

Early enrollment for the 2024-2025 school year begins March 18 for current WCP members. Get the spot and committee you want by registering early! Pre-registration forms and your \$23.63 membership fee will be required to reserve your child's spot. A full registration package will be sent in March to all families who complete the pre-registration process.

Fall registration for new members will begin the week of April 8th.

The board of directors will also begin recruiting and training any interested new board members soon. The board brings together the unique talents and interests of the members that form the voice of the families at the preschool! We embrace parent engagement and welcome involvement.

FAMILY PHOTO

The children love seeing a familiar face in our classroom! Please send your family picture to Assistant Supervisor Patty (waterloopreschool.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.



COGNITIVE DEVELOPMENT LAB

The University of Waterloo often conducts a Cognitive Development Lab with our families for those of age for the research they are conducting and for those interested in participating. Watch for information as the month goes on. This study helps university Psychology students research how children do things. Last year it was how they communicate. They looked at children aged 4-5 and what their ability is to produce and comprehend messages effectively. They also looked at how children use non verbal cues from others to guide their communication.

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 Teacher Patty (waterloopreschool.asstteacher@gmail.com).

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

FINAL NOTES

Parent Engagement and Responsive Relationships are a main focus this year for the Staff. A second main focus is using the environment as our 3rd teacher. Staff are embracing nature and engaging nature as much as we can. We are focusing for the rest of this year on 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!

Parents please be sure to always add your child's full name and class they are in when communicating with the preschool staff or board members. All payments must include child's name.

Please be mindful of any symptoms of illness and help keep our classes healthy by not attending when ill. If your child is sick with any symptoms of illness or have any cold or flu symptoms they need to stay at home until they are fever free for 24 hours and vomiting, diarrhea free for 48 hours. If your child is going to be absent please remember to fill out our [Reason for absence form](#).

JK REGISTRATION

For all children born in 2020, it's time to register for Junior Kindergarten! For registration with the Waterloo Region District School board please use the following link <https://www.wrdsb.ca/kindergarten/>. For registration with the Waterloo Catholic District School Board please use the following link <https://www.wcdsb.ca/our-schools/register-for-school/entering-kindergarten/>.

Please note that school attendance is not mandatory until Grade One. JK and SK years in the school system are a two year program that is very similar to the Waterloo Cooperative Preschool KP program that we offer Monday - Friday afternoons. Families can choose to attend JK in September in their local school, OR they can continue with us in our KP program until January or for the full JK year as an option. Some families choose to combine KP and JK in their local school, attending JK every morning and WCP every afternoon. There are many options we can explore together, and with our Resource Consultant from KW Habilitation. Please do not hesitate to reach out.



SPONSORSHIP CORNER

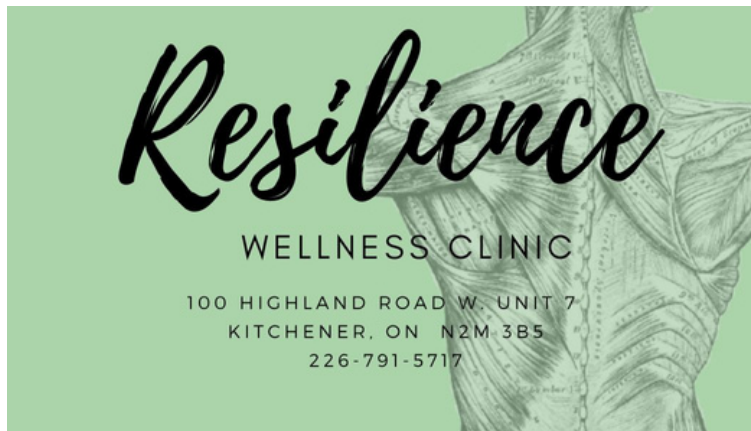
A warm thank you to our sponsors for sponsoring Waterloo Co-operative Preschool! Your generous funding will allow us to provide great programming, fun field trips, and hands-on learning for our children.

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. Massage Therapy is beneficial for relieving muscle tension and associated pain, reducing feelings of stress, increasing circulation for improved healing, and improving range of motion.

We look forward to helping you with your healthcare needs.

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



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KELLY REALTY GROUP

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!



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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

