



WATERLOO CO-OPERATIVE PRESCHOOL | 2023

OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

FALLING INTO ROUTINES!



IN THIS ISSUE

- A Note From Supervisor Tracey
- A Note From Assistant Supervisor Patty What to Wear
- Board Meetings
- ECE Appreciation Day
- Preschool Cookbook
- Family Photo
- Halloween
- Fall Yard Cleanups
- Clothing Labels
- Scholastic Books
- SPOT & Snap Programs
- Seesaw app
- 'Special me' Project
- Parent Volunteers
- Parent Resources

A NOTE FROM SUPERVISOR TRACEY

Welcome families! After a month of settling in, I hope you are all beginning to feel a sense of community within Waterloo Co-op.

We have been having fun with the children spending as much time outdoors as possible.

Over the next few weeks we will be focusing on a sense of belonging, independence, and becoming confident and comfortable with our daily routine. Our learning may involve Jolly Phonics and having fun with songs and sounds to develop early literacy skills.

We will also be working on name identification, fine motor and gross motor skill development, counting and number identification, and Calendar Time.

We will be singing songs (The Hello Song & Line Up Song), sleeping bunnies, reading poems and stories and making crafts. The projects and topics will be based on each group's interests but we will likely be focusing on are farming, food, harvest, sorting, classification, big & little, same & different

I'm looking forward to learning together!

Love Teacher Tracey



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.



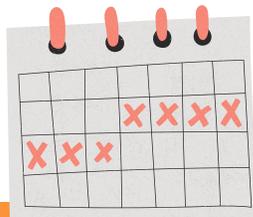


WHAT TO WEAR

As the weather cools, it's time to start thinking about dressing in layers. Please wear splash pants that are big enough to fit loosely around pants, a sweater, boots, coat, hat, and light mitts.

A raincoat or winter coat depending on the weather as well. As the day warms up we can take off the outer layer. No laces and no scarves or strings please.

Before your child arrives please ensure they have had a good meal, have used the washroom, washed their hands, and are dressed for the weather. This way they are ready to engage with the outdoors!



IMPORTANT DATES

- **October 3** - Volunteer Orientation
- **October 9** - Thanksgiving (Preschool is Closed)
- **October 17** - ECE Appreciation Day & board meeting, 6:30pm
- **October 23** - PD Day
- **October 30 & 31** - Wear Your Halloween Costume to School (optional)

A NOTE FROM ASSISTANT SUPERVISOR PATTY

I am sure you all have your individual goals and hopes as you send your child or children to WCP.

Please know that Teacher Tracey and I follow the principles outlined in the document 'How Does Learning Happen? Ontario's Pedagogy for the Early Years'. This document focuses on belonging, wellbeing, engagement and expression.

Recently, as part of our continuous learning and professional development, I also took a course called 'Supporting Atypical Development', which focused on these same key areas.

Belonging refers to a sense of connectedness to others, an individual's experience of being valued, of forming relationships with others and making contributions as part of a group, community and/or the natural world.

Wellbeing refers to addressing the importance of physical and mental health and wellness. It incorporates capacities such as self-care, sense of self and self-regulation.

Engagement suggests a state of being involved and focused. When children are able to explore the world around them with their natural curiosity, they are fully engaged.

Through this type of play and inquiry, they develop skills such as problem solving, creative thinking and innovating, which are all essential for learning and success in school and beyond.

Lastly, expression or communication (to be heard as well as to listen) may take many different forms. Through bodies, words, and use of materials, children develop capacities for increasingly complex communication. Opportunities to explore materials supports creativity, problem solving and mathematical behaviour. Language-rich environments support growing communication skills, which are foundational for literacy.

These four domains support all children's strengths, but also build a foundation that supports future potential and possibilities. 'How Does Learning Happen?' asserts that, "Children thrive in programs where they and their families are valued as active participants and contributors." Together, we will support your child in their learning by following this pedagogy. Please click [here](#) to read the complete document.

We look forward to a great year with you and your child!

Love Teacher Patty





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 Educator Patty:
waterloopreschool.asstteacher@gmail.com

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

FAMILY PHOTO

Send a family picture to Patty, our Assisant Supervisor (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.

HALLOWEEN

Halloween is a time for creativity! Your child can wear a costume on October 30 & 31. Please be sure to dress warm and wear something suitable for outdoors. No treats or candy please. Is a costume not right for you? Your child can wear orange & black, or regular clothes! N accessories that can be lost or that are of violent nature.

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!

ECE APPRECIATION DAY

October 3 is the 23rd annual Child Care Worker and Early Childhood Educator Appreciation Day. This day recognizes the commitment, hard work and dedication of ECEs and staff who work with young children.

This year's CCW and ECE Appreciation Day theme is **Worth MORE!** Appreciation Day will be especially important as we work toward a Canada-Wide Early Learning and Child Care system that includes decent work and pay for ECEs and CCWs. While new federal commitments are beginning to bring more affordable child care to some families, our work must continue to ensure that we solve the child care workforce crisis and truly value the work of ECE and CCWs. Expanding the child care system to serve more families and to improve the quality of child care for young children, decent work and pay for child care workers is essential. ECEs' working conditions are children's learning conditions

FALL YARD CLEANUP

We are lucky to have big, beautiful trees shading our playground outside but they do drop a lot of leaves! We will have two dates for a fall yard cleanup. One near the end of October and one in November. Please be on the lookout for the dates to be announced via email. We also will have a spring cleanup date as well. Members must attend one yard cleanup over the course of the school year. The school improvements officer can be reached at waterloopreschool.operations@gmail.com

BOARD MEETING

We have an upcoming board meeting on **October 17 at 6:30pm**. Feel free to join us! A Zoom link will be sent around prior to the meeting.

A reminder that parents are expected to attend at least one board meeting over the course of the school year.



Don't Forget!

We are closed Thanksgiving and Christmas but fees are still charged. For more information on fees, giving notice to withdraw and more, please review our Parent Handbook.

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 we can earn 20% in rewards to purchase new books and items for the classroom.





MEET OUR STAFF

Tracey Marques RECE RSSW supervisor

Patty Fallis Robbins RECE assistant supervisor

Contact our two main educators:

Tracey at waterloopreschool.teacher@gmail.com or Patty at waterloopreschool.asstteacher@gmail.com

AM Room 1

Xiao Yin Deng 'Cherie', RECE, lead educator beginning Oct 10.

Jessica McCann, RECE, co-lead educator.

Erin Legary, RECE, assistant educator and support staff.

PM

Xiao Yin Deng 'Cherie', RECE, lead educator beginning Oct 10.

Erin Legary, RECE, assistant educator and support staff.



AM Room 2

Jennifer Reidl, RECE, lead educator.

Kelsey Scheerer, RECE, assistant educator.

PM

Jessica McCann, RECE, is lead educator.

Kelsey Scheerer, RECE, assistant educator.

Support Staff

Natalie Mallet is working towards her BA in psychology and works as a support staff and supply staff on some Monday and Wednesday AM Preschool classes.

Miah Yarde is a psychology BA student at Laurier working in Preschool as support and as supply. You may run into other supply staff, such as **Eveliina, Alisa, Andree** or **Brittney**, on some Monday, Wednesday, and/or Fridays as needed to fill in for regular staff if they are off.

Laurier psychology with us until the end of November

- Monday AM room #1 - Lauren O'sullivan
- Monday AM room #2 - Michaela Grodek
- Monday PM room #1 - Sasha Mildenerger
- Monday PM room #2 - Olivia
- Tuesday AM room #1 - Leah Partridge
- Tuesday AM room #2 - Michaela Burpee
- Tuesday PM room #1 - Chloe Tetreault
- Tuesday PM room #2 - Sara Micheal
- Wednesday AM room #1 - Sara Hansford
- Wednesday AM room #2 - Jasleen Dhanoa
- Wednesday PM room #1 - Shakiraa Suntharalingam
- Wednesday PM room #2 - Mikayla Howden
- Thursday AM room #1 - Gianna Garate
- Thursday AM room #2 - Marley Wheeler
- Thursday PM room #1 - Joseph Solarino
- Thursday PM room#2 - Seher Baig
- Friday AM room #1 - Abbey
- Friday AM room #2 - Mariah Robinson
- Friday PM room #2 - Shannon Booth

Conestoga College ECE students

- Monday & Tuesday: Tahira Uddin in room #1 and Jessical Colbourne in room #2
- Thursday & Friday: Fatima Ziakhaou in room #1 and Parampreet Kaur in room #2

✨ We are still looking for qualified support and supply staff and are actively recruiting.

All students and visitors are fully vaccinated, have cleared a vulnerable sector check and are supervised at all times by staff. They are greatly appreciated and help insure high quality programming occurs each day!

'SPECIAL ME' PROJECT

At WCP, we embrace the diversity of our preschool community and we value a sense of belonging and expression of self.

This year, we would like to explore our diversity by creating a book highlighting the uniqueness of our members and the ways in which we come together as a caring, responsive group that fosters positive relationships and a sense of community.

Each child will have the opportunity to participate in a Special Me day where they will be given a few minutes of carpet time dedicated to talking about their Special Me creation page.

Some things you may want to include on your child's page could be your favourite foods or recipes, the languages you speak at home, your favourite place to play, how you address your grandparents, your favourite song or book, something you are afraid of or are excited about, your favourite thing about preschool, or your favourite holiday or tradition. Watch for your child's Special Me page to be sent home with them. Fill it out and decorate it and return to the teachers within one week.

Please talk to Teacher Tracey or Teacher Patty if you have any questions!

PARENT RESOURCES

Whether it's dealing with separation anxiety or easing the transition from home to preschool, the [National Association for the Education of Young Children](#) has a wealth of resources available for parents.

SPOT & SNAP PROGRAMS

We appreciate the support of the KidsAbility and KW Habilitation Resource consultant, Bhavneet Brar.

SPOT stands for speech, physiotherapy and occupational therapy, areas this program supports.

We will also have Susan, a speech pathologist, visiting our classroom from KidsAbility this fall to spend a block of time with the entire class.

We're here to help and if you have any concerns about your child's development at any time, please don't hesitate to speak with the teachers.

We are thrilled to have a team of dedicated professionals working with our children and we take pride in how we accommodate individual needs. We encourage you to maintain open communication with your nurturing educators who are focused on building positive relationships with the families.

SEESAW APP

We hope we have been able to capture some of your child's discoveries and learning over their first few weeks at WCP. You can comment directly on Seesaw, should you wish to interact or ask questions!



IMPORTANT:
For board roles & communications with staff via email, please always include your child's name

PARENT VOLUNTEERS



Parent orientation for those wanting to volunteer will be held on *Tuesday, October 3, 10:30am-12pm* (adults only for training please.)

Important: please be sure to set aside some time read over our **parent handbook** and **policies** listed on our website .

When policies are updated, you will be sent an email with the changes noted.

Volunteers in the classroom: Please ensure your health information including date of last mmr date, tetanus, etc. to put on a public health record form here for which you will need to sign. If a TB test is required you will be able to tell based on the health form.

You will need to also bring a vulnerable sector check and/or receipt showing it has been started and it needs to be less than 6 months old. Other forms to sign during orientation include sign-off on the parent handbook, policies, emergency plans and Individual support plans.

Remember: Being in the classroom with the students requires sensitivity and confidentiality.

I am very excited to see all of you and to welcome you to the team, I sure hope it is a great experience and you enjoy it thoroughly.

Please email Patty or Tracey any time should you need anything at all! You will also need to inform the secretary if your monthly volunteer day needs to be changed.

waterloopreschool.secretary@gmail.com

Please welcome covid test kits as they are handed out or request a package as per your need. We are still experiencing new covid cases in our community and children are not to come when ill with any kind of illness, rash or undiagnosed fevers etc. Vomiting and diarrhea require 48 hours of absence. Parents, and children can return after it has subsided since the last bout for 48 hours.

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.

Whether it's dealing with separation anxiety or easing the transition from home to preschool, the National Association for the Education of Young Children has a wealth of resources available for parents.



Resilience
WELLNESS CLINIC
100 HIGHLAND ROAD W. UNIT 7
KITCHENER, ON N2M 3B5
226-791-5717

MEET OUR NEWEST MESSAGE THERAPIST,
Michelle Dueck
AT RESILIENCE WELLNESS CLINIC

Michelle (she/her) has been a RMT in Ontario for eight years. She welcomes all clients and especially enjoys supporting those with chronic conditions. Her massage treatments are a blend of rehabilitative and relaxing in support of individual health goals.

KELLY REALTY GROUP

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

