



**ROBERTSON**  
EARLY ENRICHMENT PROGRAM INC.

# NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 3 | JANUARY AND FEBRUARY

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Executive Director's report	1
Assistant Director's report	1
Reggio-Emilia Philosophy	2
Jeni's Column	2
Preschool news	3
Infant Corner	3
Parent Notices	4
Educators News	4
Recipe by Jeanette	4

## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- **Next board meeting is February 8, 2017 at the SSCY Centre Building**

## FROM PAT'S DESK

Welcome 2017! Happy New Year! Thank you to all of our families for the lovely cards treats and holiday wishes. Your kind words and thoughtfulness is much appreciated! Thank you to those who donated winter wear, non perishable food and other items to our hampers. We were able to provide a holiday hamper to 17 families between both locations. Thank you for your support in this endeavour.

New Year means new goals for this year and we have started by outlining our wishes and dreams for both locations. At our last educators meeting we took some time to discuss and reflect our hopes and dreams for both locations. At February's board of directors meeting we will review these and come up with a strategic plan to accomplish some of these goals.

Your feedback is very important to us. Please keep your eyes out for a survey monkey questionnaire. We want to know your thoughts about how we're doing and this will also help us to achieve the best quality care and programming we can offer your children. Please take the few minutes to fill out the short survey which will be posted on January 30<sup>th</sup>.

Thank you!

## BECKA'S BEAT

It's that time of year again! We are starting to plan for children who will be attending Nursery or Kindergarten programs in the fall. Some children require transition papers, while others just need that extra support to be ready and comfortable.

Just a reminder that if you live in Winnipeg 1 school division and your child turns 4 in this calendar year they are eligible for Nursery. If your child turns 5 this calendar year, they are eligible for Kindergarten in any Manitoba school division.

We do NOT provide transportation to schools. There are no schools that are close enough for us to safely walk in all weather. We will meet a bus at our child care entrance if you choose to set up private bussing for your child.

We would appreciate knowing if your child will be leaving the program in order to attend school off site in September. We would also love to know if your child will be attending a half-day program in the school system, and continuing with us for the other half-day. Please remember we require 2 calendar weeks' notice minimum, although knowing further in advance is an advantage for all of us.

Thanks so much. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have questions about your child's transition to school.

**Becka Linton**  
**Assistant Director**  
[blinton@robertsoneep.ca](mailto:blinton@robertsoneep.ca)

# Jeni's Column: Our Inclusion Journey

Happy New Year Everyone!

As I write this, I think about all the wonderful and positive changes this last year has brought. I am grateful for the many wonderful opportunities I have had both personally and professionally. I consider myself to be a lifelong learner and enjoy attending various workshops and conferences and have been pleased to have the opportunity to further my learning and understanding.

Something I have been curious about has been our bodies' senses and I wanted to learn more about how our senses work and have a bit more information about why some of us might require more or less sensory input (such as foot tapping) than others. I really enjoyed learning about the different senses we have touch, taste, sight, smell, hearing, proprioception, and vestibular. I learned about some of the whys when it comes to senses and regulation (levels of input), ways to decrease stimuli, and about different materials that can be purchased depending on a person's individual needs. I look forward to continuing my learning on this topic.

Jeni Singer  
[jsinger@robertsoneep.ca](mailto:jsinger@robertsoneep.ca)



Robertson Holiday Hampers



Robertson staff holiday party at Billy Mosienko Lanes

*"Young children deserve to have the fullest experiences possible to meet up with their lively minds!"*

- Deb Curtis

## Reggio-Emilia Philosophy

Since opening our childcare centre, we have grown into a close and vibrant family. We would like to thank everyone who participated in the December Christmas party. It was amazing to come together with parents, grandparents, staff and children to share in the joy and happiness of the holiday season.

We are very excited to announce that we had an important visitor on January 30, 2017 from the United States. Deb Curtis is well known around the world for her work in the field of early childhood education.

Deb Curtis holds a Master's of Arts in human development from Pacific Oaks College and has worked as an infant/toddler caregiver, preschool and school age childcare teacher, CDA trainer, Head Start education coordinator, college instructor, and assistant director of a childcare program. She is putting into practice the philosophy and vision that they promote in their extensive travel across North America, Australia, and New Zealand to give presentations and consult with early childhood programs. Deb is a regular writer for Child Care Information Exchange and contributes to other publications.

We are looking forward to learning from and being inspired by her knowledge.

OIha Zablotzki  
[ozablotzki@robertsoneep.ca](mailto:ozablotzki@robertsoneep.ca)

## INFANT CORNER

This past December, we hosted a Winter Sing-Along in the Maple/Chestnut Room for all of the classrooms and families of REEP-SSCY. We would like to thank the parents and families for attending, participating, and spending the occasion with us, as well as sending their holiday greets and treats our way!

In light of Winnipeg's extreme winter weather, we've implemented a new gym space within the Infant Room. We've also introduced Baby Rhyme Time, where Pat (and company) brings in a handful of nursery rhymes for the children to enjoy!

We will be saying goodbye and good luck to Waylon as he will be moving to the Birch Room in January! Jack will also be moving to Cedar in February.

Furthermore, we would like to formally welcome Smith and Aiden to the Maple/Chestnut Room! We look forward to dining with our families again at our Pizza Party coming this February! Stay tuned :)

If you have any comments, questions, or concerns please feel free to contact [ajohnson@robertsoneep.ca](mailto:ajohnson@robertsoneep.ca), or come by and talk to any one of us in the infant room.

- CJ Peralta

## PRESCHOOL NEWS

The children in the Cedar room have been enjoying the snow and all of its winter activities: digging in the snow, dying it with spray bottles of food colouring, sledding down the hill, and so much more. When the wind chill was too bitter, the snow came inside for further exploration.

We have also begun a study of transformation; exploring different ways to change how we see and explore both the world around us, and alternating materials by mixing them. These first forays into chemistry allow children to safely explore their own questions and ideas.

If you have any questions please come and see any one of the teachers in the Cedar Room!

- Meghan Tervoort



Robertson Sing Along holiday party



"Snow Trees" through the inspiration of "Trees" by Britta Teckentrup

By Mariia D. Age3

Birch room has posted a planning web on the way into our classroom, in the hallway

The staffs have been busy adding activities and experience for your children based on their interests and we invite you to do the same! You know your children best, and we would love for you to add any and all play ideas that you may have. These can include: books, songs, art, physical play, materials/ items, ANYTHING!

Please take some time to view it and add what you would like your child to experience.

Collaborative planning is amazing!

- Christy Kreiner

## PARENT INFORMATION

Reminder that your child will be going outside daily so please ensure your child is dressed for the weather. PLEASE LABEL YOUR CHILD'S BELONGINGS.

Also, please remember to have a change of labeled clothes for your child in case of accidents.

Three little pigs Aria and Sofiiia with wolf Xander



## EDUCATORS NEWS

In preparation for relicensing, our last staff meeting focused on our policies and procedures in case of all types of emergencies.

We also discussed our hopes and dreams for both our locations.

Thank you to all the families who came for our family literacy tea party!

## WAYS TO GET INVOLVED!

- A new yoga program will be starting on February 2, 2017. They will be held every Thursday with Anjelica!
- Music time with Ian in the infant room Tuesdays and Thursdays at 11am!
- We are always looking for loose parts to inspire the children's creativity!
- Join the Parent Engagement Council at the SSCY Building! Meetings are held a few times a year

## IN JEANETTE'S KITCHEN

### Three Sister's Soup

- 1 Medium yellow onion, chopped
- 1 Large celery rib, chopped
- 1 tbsp Canola oil
- 1 tspn Curry powder
- 6 Cups low/ no sodium chicken broth
- 2 Cups hominy corn
- 1 Can of red kidney beans, drained and rinsed
- 1 3/4 cups of pumpkin puree
- 5 Fresh sage leaves

#### Instructions:

1. Add canola oil, onions, celery, and curry spice to a large saucepot and bring to medium heat on stovetop for 5 mins or until onions are translucent;
2. Add broth to pot and bring to a slow boil;
3. Add corn and kidney beans, bring to a boil for 10 mins;
4. Lower to medium heat then add the pumpkin and sage
5. Simmer for 20 mins, stirring occasionally;
6. Remove from heat and serve.

Enjoy!

-Jeanette Cabacungan



## HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO THESE JANUARY AND FEBRUARY BABIES!

### CHILDREN:

Waylon, Jeremy, Joe, Gabriel, Addy, Scarlett, Sally, Sofiiia, Jack, Charlee

### STAFF:

Elaine, Jeni, Becka

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Our next board meeting is scheduled for **5:15 pm on Wednesday February 8, 2017 at the SSCY Location**. All are welcomed to attend! Dinner will be served.

## ROBERTSON EARLY ENRICHMENT PROGRAM INC.

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**Learning and Growing Together.**