

Hounsfeld Heights
Briar Hill Community Kindergarten

February 2012 Newsletter

Welcome to the busy month of February. This month the children will be learning about outer space. We will be making a night and day sky, learning about the planets, life as an astronaut, taking a look at a few of the stars and constellations and making and interviewing some very interesting aliens from outer space. We will also celebrate "100th day in class" on Wednesday, February 15. The children will exchange Valentines with one another on Tuesday February 14 and have treats. Please make sure everyone in your child's class gets a Valentines. They so enjoy receiving them.

On Monday, February 27, 2012 the children will be going on a field trip to Spaceport at the Calgary International Airport.

We will also be having alphabet days, early numeracy work, journal writing, reading in class and at home, gym and buddy reading days.

Spaceport Field Trip at the Calgary International Airport is Monday, February 27, 2012 from 8:45 am to 12:30 pm.

We will need a total of 9 Parent Volunteers for this trip. Five from the morning class and four from the afternoon class. It will be a long morning so I am also asking for two snack parent volunteers from each class. I would like to suggest 1/2 an apple (cored) and a nut-free granola bar. The apples will not discolor if you sprinkle a little lemon juice on them and bring them in an air-tight container. The morning snack volunteer should bring enough apples and granola bars for 24 people and the afternoon should provide for 17 people. That will then allow the adults to have some too.

There is a Parent Volunteer sign-up sheet for both the trip and the snacks on the Parent Bulletin Board.

A permission Form is going home under separate cover. Please sign immediately and return to the basket by the classroom door no later than Friday, February 10, 2012

Our schedule for the morning will be as follows;

8:45 - 9:00	Depart from school
9:30 - 9:45	Arrival
9:45 - 10:30	"Astronauts Living in Space" a film Snack
10:45 - 11:15	Build and launch a rocket
11:15 - 12:00	One Ride on a Ride to outer space.
12:00 - 12:40	Depart and Return to school

(approximate times)

Please make certain your child has a good breakfast and comes dressed in pants or jeans for the morning. They will NOT need backpacks for this trip. NO afternoon classes on February 27, 2012. Everyone will be in the morning class.

Valentines Day, Tuesday February 14, 2012

We are asking for five goodie plates for the morning children and four goodie plates for the afternoon children. We exchange Valentines on this day and have the lovely treats that you provide. It is not a great big party but the children like this arrangement. Please see the sign up sheet on the Parent Bulletin Board if you are able to provide a goodie plate on this day. Please make sure that all the treats are nut free. Thank you so much for your help with these requests.

A list of the children in both classes will be sent home with the Permission form to Space Port at the beginning of February. If your child wishes he/she can print the children's name on their cards as well as their own name to show who it is from.

When they bring their cards to school on the 14th try to have them arranged alphabetically in a Ziploc bag for easy distribution. A parent volunteer for each class on this day would be really helpful. IF you include some candies in the Valentine please make sure they are also nut free.

One Hundredth Day, Wednesday February 15, 2012

On Wednesday, February 15 the children celebrate 100 days in Kindergarten. It involves lots of counting and number work. It often takes the next day to complete all the number projects but the children really get involved and enjoy the challenges. If any parent is looking for a good, busy day in the classroom, these two days will certainly provide it for you.

Teacher's Convention Thursday 16, 2012 & Friday February 17, 2012

There will be kindergarten on Thursday February 16 but not on Friday February 17, 2012. This will be an organizational day. There is NO school on Monday, February 20, 2012 which is Family Day.

Alphabet Days

Thursday February 2 is “Rr” day
Tuesday, February 7 is “Ss” day
Thursday, February 9 is “Tt” day
Tuesday, February 14 is “Uu” day
Thursday, February 16 is “Vv” day
Tuesday, February 21 is “Ww” day
Thursday, February 23 is “Xx” day
Tuesday, February 28 is “Yy” day

Early Numeracy

We will continue, to pattern, and learn to distinguish between “greater than” and “less than”. This will then move to addition and subtraction.

Important Dates to Remember

February 2, 7, 9, 14, 16, 21, 23 & 28	Rr, Ss, Tt, Uu, Vv, Ww, Xx, Yy days
February 14	Valentines Day
February 15	100th Day
February 17	Organizational Day - No school
February 20	Family Day - No school
February 27	Spaceport Field Trip

Thank you to Jane McKeown for substitute teaching this month. Now let's welcome Ivy Mewha for February.

Barb Scratch
Kindergarten Teacher