

FEBRUARY NEWS

Reminders

Feb. 20- 21– No school

Feb. 25- Winter Festival at the Red Deer Lake Community Centre

2017 Kindergraten Application & Registration Dates:

January 26 2017–Application Period Opens

February 10 2017–Early application deadline

March 6 2017–Acceptance letters mailed out

March 24 2017–Deadline to accept your spot

March 25 & ongoing– Waitlisted applicants will be notified of openings as spots become available.

Please visit the website to download the application and registration package.



Explorers in the Snow

As the winter temperatures change and the snow conditions vary everyday, the Nature Kindergarten students have been leading many explorations and inquiries of the winter environment and the creatures that are active in the winter and cold climates. After experimenting with the snow in our daily play, we conduct a snow report on the conditions of the snow and what it’s good for. Our favourite snow so far has been sticky, plenty of it, and “warm” which is good for making snow balls, carving snow forts, packing buckets and shovels with, and makes it easy to identify animal tracks in. We continue to seek the answers to our questions about where animals live, what they eat and how they travel in the winter time. Foxes, penguins, narwhals and large cats have been animals of interest. We have reflected on what we know about these animals already, and asked questions we





Valentine's Day

We will be focusing on acts of kindness this month with the children. We will be looking at things we can do for our friends, families and the animals around us to show we care and can be kind with our actions and words. We will be creating friendship gifts on February 13th and 14th for each other and the animals too. If you are bringing Valentines to class we ask that you bring one for each child. Please ask your child's teacher for how many students in each class.



would like the answers to. The children have built numerous animal homes in the snow, entered the imaginary world of these animals, and mimicked tracks and ways of travel in the snow for these animals. It is wonderful to see the children answer their own questions through the method of play and discovery in the snow. For example, finding out being buried deep under the snow gives the body warmth instead of being frozen cold and hearing the mice scuttle through and under crusty snow just as a fox would. We look forward to deepening our understanding of the winter conditions, and the animals that survive throughout. As the ice melts, interests in ice crystals, different layers of snow and snowflakes emerge and we will continue to explore these phenomenons in our environment.

Winterfest Fundraiser

As part of our fundraising initiatives for the Nature Kindergarten Program, we will be holding a Winter Festival on February 25th where we will enjoy a fun family afternoon in the great outdoors at Red Deer Lake Community Centre. We are busy organizing fun activities for all families to enjoy. During the festival, we will invite all of the attendees to browse our Silent Auction which will highlight the talents of our wonderful families. From gift certificates for services, to gift baskets of items, to original art and handicrafts – we look forward to seeing and bidding on these items and services to benefit the Nature Kindergarten. If you are interested in volunteering to help with the event, including setup/takedown, activities, bake sale or silent auction please let Michael Gray know at umgray@shaw.ca. More information is on the webpage, including a link to purchase tickets from eventbrite. An early bird family ticket is \$15.

If you are interested in donating an item or service for the auction, or helping with set up please contact JP Fouillard at jp.fouillard@sunlife.com.