

JANUARY NEWS

Reminders

Park Passes

As we are now into 2019 you will need to renew your Red Deer Lake Community Association pass. 2019 forms have been emailed out to RDL families. Passes need to be purchased by January 7th. You can stop off at the park office in person if you have not purchased your pass. You must have a new pass for park days as a new gate code is issued with the new passes.

2019-20 Kindergarten Information Night

We will be holding the parent information night for the 2019-2020 school year on January 17 at Tanbridge from 7pm-8:30pm in the gym. If you are interested please sign up on the eventbrite link located on our webpage. If you have any questions, please email our Registrar Tanya Moe at: tanya@calgarynaturekindergarten.com



New Year Wishes

We would like to send warm wishes for the New Year to all of our families. This month will start to introduce Guided Reading with the children. This will be done in small groups and one on one to help foster and build early reading strategies using early reading texts. We will be continuing our mapping projects by creating a large canvas park map in the shelter that we will add to over the next few months. We will also be creating a class nature inspired number line and focusing on number sense with the children.

School Closures

As we are now into colder months, the potential for last minute weather changes is something to be aware of. The possibility of a school closure is greater at RDL due to being outside of the city and highway conditions. If there is a school closure due to severe winter weather, a storm or power outage, Nature Kindergarten follows the same protocol as Tanbridge Academy, as they are responsible for all tenants in the building. As soon as we are notified, the school closer will be updated on the Kindergarten webpage, Storypark and an email will be sent out to parents. This type of closer can occur the evening before school or early morning before school.

Cold Weather Clothing:

With cold months ahead, please review the winter clothing in the parent handbook. Extra warm wool socks are important for your child to be wearing at all times. We also recommend an extra pair of warm waterproof gloves/mittens in case hands get cold. Snow pants and a warm pair of winter boots are a must especially on park days. Please return any items from bins that may have gone home over the break. Also, if you have bought new items for your child, please remember to write your child's name inside, we have many gloves that look the same!

We recommend on park days that students have a warm drink (in a tightly sealing container) or a thermos with hot food for lunch as it warms them up. Food rich in proteins and carbohydrates are good winter foods for active bodies outside. Some families have also sent hand/foot warmers in back packs as a back up in case their child gets cold on a park day.

Parent Workshop:

At the beginning of February we will be offering a parent workshop for our community on Collaborative Problem Solving presented by Shawn O'Grady. Please stay tuned for an email with information on the workshop.

If it is a scheduled park day and the weather is too cold to be outside all day, then drop off will be changed to the indoor classroom. For this change in location, the webpage will be updated by 8:00 am and an email or Storypark announcement will also be sent out to parents as soon as possible. Please check the webpage and emails the evening before, and in the morning before you leave for school so that you have the most up to date information.

Nature Kindergarten 4th Annual Winterfest and Silent Auction

Our 4th Annual Winter Festival will take place on **February 23rd, 2019** at the Red Deer Lake Community Centre. The planning of Winterfest is underway, this is our biggest fundraising event, and through your support the Silent Auction brings in the largest percentage of its funds. It is suggested that each family contribute donations towards the Silent Auction to support its success. Past "hot-ticket" items have included, sports attire/tickets, gift certificates for items and services (spa, clothing, groceries, photo shoots, etc), and gift baskets. Any questions about the Silent Auction can be emailed to calgarynaturekindergarten@gmail.com, with the subject: Winterfest Silent Auction

Once again, we appreciate and thank you for all your support and we appreciate your participation in this event. If you have questions, ideas, skills or ways you wish to volunteer to help out, please let your child's teacher know and we will put you in contact with the Winterfest Coordinator. We will have volunteer sign up for the day with shifts for different activities for parents to fill.

Classroom Donation Items

We are looking for a few donation items for the new year.

We are in need of the following items:

- Wooden pallets for building (no nails protruding)
- Mud Kitchen utensils including a kitchen scale (not digital)
- Small packs of Kleenex
- Plastic child size snow shovels

We are also looking for a volunteer to help make a giant snakes and ladders board for outside.