

December 2019



HOLY FAMILY
Preschool
& Educational Centre

Newsletter

Dear Parents:

It's hard to believe that November is over and that December is already here! We finished the last month with a field trip to learn about some of the different sections (fresh produce: fruits and vegetables, deli, bakery, frozen foods, meats and dairy products) that we can find in the grocery store. We had a great time! Please feel free to see the pictures of this wonderful experience in our classroom photo album and/or visit our Facebook page.

Our Christmas party will take place on Dec 6, 2019 from 4:30 pm to 5:30 pm. Parents are welcome to join us in our potluck party! Please sign up on our potluck sheet.

Our Out of School Care Program is on the re-accreditation process and our program's on-site evaluation is being scheduled within the 2-week window December 2-13, 2019 to ensure that our program is maintaining the standards on a continuous basis. Our Participation in accreditation is voluntary with the purpose to ensure a high-quality service to children and families.

A big thank you to everyone who has completed the Accreditation Parent Consent form.

Please note that our centre will be closed from Dec. 23 to January 3, both dates inclusive, for Christmas break.

We wish you all have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



FRIENDLY REMINDERS FOR ALL PARENTS:



*** LUNCH BOXES/ NUT FREE ENVIRONMENT**

Please let us know about your child's allergies and help us protect the children with allergies by making our environment PEANUT & NUT FREE. We ask you to carefully read the list of ingredients while packing a healthy snack for your child. Thank you!

If your son or daughter has any sort of allergy or needs us to administer medication of any kind, we need you to fill out a specific form that we can keep on file.

Restrictions:

- Absolutely no peanut butter, peanuts, nuts and chocolate:
- No seeds, candy, especially gum and hard candies, toffee and caramels
- Grapes should be sliced lengthwise
- Hard fruits and vegetables- shred or crop into pieces: and
- Fruits with pit e.g. cherries, peaches, etc. –remove stone

*** INDOOR SHOES**

Please make sure that your child brings a pair of indoor shoes provided exclusively for indoors. For safety, NONE OF THE FOLLOWING: Flip flops; open toed shoes/sandals; princess play shoes; black leather soled shoe.

***TOYS & OTHER ITEMS FROM HOME**

Please do not allow your child to bring toys and other items from home into school. Children enjoy packing their school bags of items but these items are *very* distracting and lead to other children feeling left out. Therefore, it is appreciated if children can be asked to leave their favorites at home or in the car with the exception of show and tell days that will be informed by the teacher.

***DROP-OFF AND PICK-UP AT THE SCHOOLS**

Holy Family Preschool & Educational Centre has established drop-off and pick-up sites at the schools. If, after school, a situation arises where a child does not show up at the pre-arranged pick-up spot within 10 minutes from the school dismissal time, staff are responsible for returning the other children to Holy Family Preschool & Educational Centre. If a child was expected to be picked up at the school and did not show, a phone call will be made to the school and to parents to determine the whereabouts of the child.



Parents should stress to their child's school that children enrolled in Holy Family Preschool & Educational Centre Out-of-school Care program can NOT stay at school or be kept after school for any reason.

***PARENT RESOURCES AVAILABLE**

Holy Family Preschool & Educational Centre is here to help parents and families to connect to services found throughout our city. We have listed several Child Care Resources, Community Resources with a wealth of information that can be very beneficial! Please follow the links to find out more on our website www.holyfamilypreschool.ca under “Parent Resources.”

*** PARENT HANDBOOK**

The Parent Handbook is our primary source of information. It outlines current policies, procedures and guidelines surrounding the program. This handbook will be updated on an annual basis. Families will receive memos regarding changes, updates or revisions as they occur. It is the responsibility of all families to acknowledge and follow all rules laid out by Holy Family Preschool & Educational Centre.



STATUTORY HOLIDAYS

Holy Family Preschool & Educational Centre Ltd. will follow both Public and Separate School city wide closures and holidays. Holy Family Preschool & Educational Centre will close for the following statutory, civic holidays and other related holiday dates:

Labour Day – September (programs closed)

Thanksgiving – October (programs closed)

Remembrance Day – November (programs closed)

Christmas Break – December 23 - January 3 (programs closed)

Program re-opens - January 6

February 13-14 (No Classes for Preschool Part-Time children (Am/Pm); open for the other programs).

Family Day – February (programs closed)

Good Friday – April 10 (programs closed)

Easter Monday – April 13 (programs closed)

Spring Break – April 14-17 (No Classes for Preschool Part-Time children (Am/Pm); open for the other programs).

AM & PM Preschool Classes resume – April 20

Victoria Day – May (programs closed)

Preschool Part-Time Last-day of classes – June 26

Summer Programs: July-August

Canada Day – July (programs closed)

Heritage Day – August (programs closed)



SEVERE WEATHER CLOSURES

Holy Family Preschool & Educational Centre is closed when the Calgary School Board closes its schools due to severe weather conditions. Please be aware of these closures. Holy Family Preschool & Educational Centre reserves the right to close if the administration feels it would be unsafe for students or staff to travel.