



Glenbrook Community Preschool Newsletter

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Glenbrook Community Preschool will be providing a healthy snack for your child during their preschool class, so there is no need to pack one. In addition, please do not send any other food, such as birthday or holiday treats, to school with your child due to allergy concerns. Even food that has come in contact with peanuts can be potentially dangerous for some children. Thanks for your cooperation!



Message from the Chairperson

September 2020

This September marks my family's second year at Glenbrook Community Preschool. I feel very fortunate that my child's first school experience has taken place under the loving and watchful care of the teachers at Glenbrook Community Preschool.

I would like to welcome both new and returning families to our preschool. The teachers and Parent Advisory Committee look forward to sharing this exciting milestone in your child's life.

Our preschool strives to provide a nurturing and caring environment in which children are encouraged to grow and to learn. As parents, it can be very difficult to send our children off to school, especially in this unsure time, but please know that your child is being taken care of by the most loving and dedicated teachers.



I would like to encourage you to become involved in our preschool community, whether that be through volunteering, meeting other parents, or attending our monthly Parent Advisory Committee meetings. It is my hope that we can make your family's preschool experience memorable.

Thank you for choosing Glenbrook Community Preschool!
Best wishes for an awesome year!
Katie Derkacz, Chairperson

Upcoming Holidays and Important Dates

Friday Sept 25: NO SCHOOL – Professional Development Day
Tuesday Sept 29: PAC Meeting (7:30pm)
Friday Oct 9: NO SCHOOL – PD Day
Monday Oct 12: NO SCHOOL – Thanksgiving Day
Tuesday Oct 27: PAC Meeting (7:30pm)
Friday Oct 30: NO SCHOOL- PD Day
Wednesday Nov 11: NO SCHOOL – Remembrance Day
Friday Nov 20: NO SCHOOL – PD Day
Tuesday Nov 24: PAC Meeting (7:30 pm)
Friday Dec 4: NO SCHOOL- PD Day
Thursday December 17: Last Day of Class, winter break
Monday Jan 4: Classes Resume

All parents are welcome to attend our Parents' Advisory Committee (PAC) meetings which will be held via Zoom this year. We welcome your contributions! If you would like to attend, please email Katie at chair@glenbrookpreschool.org or at katie.ann.gibson@gmail.com.

Reminders

- If you need to contact us, the preschool phone number is 403-686-6868. Please leave a message, and our teachers will pick up messages at the end of each class. Please do not call Glenbrook Elementary School, as they are not equipped to answer questions regarding the preschool.
- Please label everything your child brings to school, and ensure your child brings a backpack containing an extra set of clothes to each class.
- Please choose VELCRO indoor shoes for your child that have a proper sole on them (instead of slippers), since we must go outdoors during school fire drills. NO LACES!
- Due to issues we have had in the past, we are reminding all parents to please review the preschool's late pick-up policy, found in the Parent Handbook. The Parent Handbook can also answer many of the questions you may have about our preschool.
- Please remember that our teachers cannot supervise children outside of class time. Why not find a "buddy" parent in your child's class to look after your child in the event you are delayed at pick-up time?

Parents' Advisory Committee (PAC) Meeting Dates for the 2020 – 2021 Pre-School Year:

September 29th, October 27th,
November 24th, January 5th, January
26th, February 23th, March 23st, April
27th, June 1nd

All meetings are held at 7:30 pm via Zoom. Dates listed above are tentative. Any changes will be communicated via the monthly newsletter. If you'd like to attend, please email Katie at chair@glenbrookpreschool.org or katie.ann.gibson@gmail.com.

Classroom Theme

This month, the students will be busy exploring various shapes and colours as they settle into their new routines.

About Glenbrook Community Preschool Our Teacher and Aides

We are pleased to welcome back our wonderful teacher, Mrs. Miller. This will be Mrs. Miller's 15th year with the school. She is a certified Early Childhood Educator, trained to encourage creativity, discovery, and thinking amongst the students. We are also welcoming back our fantastic Teacher's Aide, Mrs. McConnell. Mrs. McConnell has been with the school for more than 8 years. After 35 years of service in the preschool, Mrs. Fozzard has retired. We wish her the best! All staff members are devoted professionals who love children and are dedicated to each student's development. They are very excited to be working together to provide a stimulating and positive experience for all of our children.



Fundraising

Did you know that Glenbrook Community Preschool is not part of the Calgary Board of Education? As an independent, non-profit organization, we pay rent for our preschool classrooms, purchase our own supplies, and pay for caretaking services. Our program has low student:teacher ratios and no mandatory classroom volunteer commitments! We try to keep our tuition fees low and accessible to all families, so each year we typically run 2 fundraisers, one prior to Christmas, and a second in the spring. **All of our fundraising drives are voluntary.**

Parking

Glenbrook Elementary School has been very welcoming of our preschool. You can help ensure we maintain this positive relationship by respecting the school's rules regarding parking and child drop off and pick up, as outlined in the Parent Handbook. Please remember – enter only through the south side entrance, and do not park in the staff parking lot. Parking is available on the street at the back of the school and in the alley, noting the no parking signage and being careful not to block neighbourhood garages. Thank you for your cooperation.

Now that classes are officially up and running, many of you may have more questions about health protocol.

We are required to follow regulations from both the CBE and AHS.

This means the following:

Only students are permitted to enter the building upon arrival for class.

The teacher will meet you at the Preschool entrance, review the health screening sheet (please have that filled out before arrival), do a visual health check of your child and take their temperature.

If the child is well, you will be free to leave, and your child will come into the building. The teacher will help your child get their coat off, and switch their shoes from outdoor to indoor wear.

If your child, upon arrival, has a runny nose, a cough, rash, red itchy eyes, and/or a fever, they will not be permitted to enter the building.

We understand this could be frustrating, since sometimes, cold weather can trigger runny noses and coughs, however, this is not our call. As stated above, this is mandated protocol.

The child must not return to school until the symptoms are gone. If during the time at home, the child develops new symptoms, it is recommended the child be tested for Covid. If the test is negative, the child still must remain at home until the symptoms are gone. If the test is positive, it is crucial you inform the Preschool immediately, so that contact tracing can commence in a timely manner. In short, if your child is even slightly "off" on a school day, err on the side of caution, and stay home.

If an outbreak (two or more people in a class) occurs, EVERY child who was in attendance in the exposed class will be required to isolate for TWO WEEKS. Other family members do not have to isolate (unless they present with symptoms), however, the child does.

Every surface in the classroom, will be sanitized regularly and between classes.

Each class has their own bins of toys, and every toy is cleaned and disinfected in a 4 step process EVERY day of class.

Each child has their own art supplies, playdoh and accessories, and sand/water bin with accessories