



December 2015

## *A Message from our Teachers*

November has flown by and been filled with many fun learning experiences for the students at Discovery. Exploration and play has been used in our class as a powerful way for the children to express themselves, to learn how to communicate effectively with one another while building relationships, and to stimulate cognitive thinking. There has been no shortage of purposeful play this month and it is truly fulfilling to watch the students use creativity and problem-solving to work together.

Arising out of an interest in forest animals and nature, a huge highlight for the students began in the dramatic play several weeks ago when some students used red scarves to pretend to be Little Red Riding Hood. We decided to take a leap of faith in presuming that the other students would take an interest in some famous fables and fairy tales, which have been received with much enthusiasm.

In preparation for the play "Listen to Me!" that the 3 year olds and the afternoon class will be attending in December at the Vertigo Theatre, we thought it would be fun to have performances right here in Fitzgerald Hall! We started with the book Goldilocks and the Three Bears. As the children took turns playing the three bears and Goldilocks herself using props, enthusiasm flourished amongst our student actors. Even the shyest students were playing roles and the excitement about these old and new stories began. We are currently doing the plays of The Three Little Pigs and Three Billy Goats Gruff. What fun we are having!!!

On **Tuesday, December 8th and Wednesday, December 9th**, we invite all the students to come to school in pyjamas and with a favourite stuffy from home!

Pizza day will be on **Monday, December 14th and Tuesday, December 15th**. We will send home ingredient requests to you so that each child will be able to contribute something to the pizza that we will make right here in the school with our own herbs from the garden. In the spirit of sharing, we will also be collecting non-perishable food items for the food bank starting on **Monday, December 7th**.

Our holiday parties will take place on **Thursday, December 17th and Friday, December 18th**. The

### **Important Dates**

**Dec 21, 2015 -Jan 3, 2016 – Winter Break (no school)**

**Monday, January 4, 2016 – Classes resume**

theme is “Fairy tales and Fables,” and we invite parents and siblings to have fun with the theme! A guest artist is coming next week to help us make back drops for the party! We encourage props and costumes from familiar fairy tales that the children know and have been practicing, like The Three Little Pigs, Goldilocks and the Three Bears, and Three Billy Goats Gruff. There will be a sign-up sheet at the sign-in table for snacks, activities, set up, and clean up to help make the party a success. We are anticipating a very fun time!

If you have not brought a family photo in, then please bring your photo in **no later than Tuesday December 8th**. Thank you to those that have already submitted their photographs.

Finally, a huge thank you goes out to all of the parents who participated in our first cleaning night. The school is sparkling and it is so appreciated!

Kindest regards,  
Ms Aleks & Ms Danielle

## *A Message from the Board*

### **Some Important Reminders**

- As most of you know, there is now an outside door key on the lanyard with the janitor’s key. This lanyard can be difficult to keep track of. Please remember to put the key back in the studio when you are not using it.
- Our storage closet is a shared space with the church so when you are putting away the tables in the storage space, please ensure they are stacked vertically, beside the chairs in our designated area. Thank you for your help with this.
- The front door can be sticky and difficult to open sometimes, leading many to believe that the door is locked when it may not be. Please try the doors a couple times before ringing the doorbell. If the doors have not yet been opened in the morning and the weather is cold, please call the school phone at 403-465-1141.

### **Donations**

Given the challenging time of year for many individuals and families, we have decided to participate in collecting donations for the food bank. We invite families to participate if they’d like by bringing in donations of non-perishable food. Donations will be accepted until the last day of school, Friday, December 18. Thank you!

### **School Camera**

We are looking for a camera for the school to replace the old and challenged camera we currently have. If anyone has a quality camera that they are no longer using and would be willing to donate to the school, your kindness would be very much appreciated!



## Registration for 2016-17 school year

Registration will be open to the public for the 2016-17 school year on Wednesday, February 3, 2016. Alumni and returning families will have an opportunity to register 2 weeks in advance of this date to secure their child's spot for the following year. Stay tuned - more details to come in the New Year!

We wish you a wonderful December!

### Discovery Preschool Executive Board Members

Maria Wilding	Chair	Rebecca (3's)
Melanie Gray	Vice-Chair	Cole (3's)
Peter Maitland	Treasurer	Caleb (4's)
Melissa Frankiw	Parent Job Coordinator	Kennedy (3's)
Cindy Byckal	Co-Registrar	Charlie B-L (4's)
Lisa Roberts	Co-Registrar	Callum (4's)
Leanna Baxter	Advertising Director	Liam (4's)
Mary Spooner	Facilities Director	Georgia (4's)
Linda Tran	Fundraising Director	Maddox (3's)
Julie Panteluk	Secretary	Charlie P (4's)

