Welcome to Chestermere Community Playschool!

Dear Parents,

Listed below are items that will hopefully help both you and your child have an easier transition into our playschool.

* Label all of your child’s items such as jackets, indoor and outdoor shoes, back packs, any snack or drink containers with your child’s first and last name.
* Leave all jackets, hats, snow pants and mittens on your child’s coat hook in the hallway NOT in backpacks. It is very time consuming to go back into the classroom looking for these items when we are getting ready in the hallway.
* Ensure your child has a complete set of spare clothing at the beginning of the school year (pants, underwear, shirt, socks) to be left in the classroom in case of accidents/spills.  Please package and label these in a Ziplock Bag and bring on the first day.
* Your child should be fully toilet trained by the time he/she begins playschool.  Please send your child in underwear and NOT in Pull-ups or diapers.   We are fully aware that accidents do sometimes occur, especially at the start of the school year. However, if it appears to be an ongoing issue then the teachers will meet with you to discuss the situation.
* In order to keep our classroom as clean as possible please provide indoor shoes for your child. We have class shoe bins that you can keep your indoor shoes in at the end of class.
* Please be aware that in order for your child to experience art to it’s full potential your child may occasionally get paint or other art supplies on their clothing.  Please dress your child in clothing appropriate for all playschool activities.
* Provide 1 or 2 healthy snacks and water (not juice)  in a labeled reusable water bottle for snack time. If too many snacks are provided this will take time away from your child’s playschool experience. Please practice opening all snacks and containers.
* Please provide your child’s drink in a re-usable drink container. We have found in the past that juice boxes are very wasteful and messy, as children often don’t finish the contents. Please NO juice boxes!

* In accordance to licensing policies we have to ensure that a ‘healthy snack’ is provided from home. This may include yogurts, cheese & crackers, NUT FREE granola bars, fruit or vegetable sticks. Any food items that we feel are inappropriate for our ‘healthy food policy’ will be sent home again (i.e., chips, candies, chocolate bars or pop).
* If your child requires any medication during school hours such as an inhaler or EpiPen, you need to inform a teacher and complete a medication information/administration form. You must provide a separate set of medication to keep at school. Medications CANNOT be left in backpacks.  The teachers will ensure that the medication is kept out of children’s reach and accessible in case of emergency. Please speak to the teachers on the first day to get a medication form.
* A newsletter and calendar will be e-mailed to you each month. This will contain information regarding important reminders, themes, special days, and any requests for each school day. Please ensure that you read the newsletter and calendar each month so you know what is going on in our classroom.
* Please empty your child’s coat cubbies at the end of each class as the cubbies are shared between classes.
* Five ice skating sessions are held one day a month from October through to March, excluding December. These are 1 hour sessions held the first 1 hour of your child’s class. A parent or an adult of your choice is required to attend these sessions to supervise. These sessions are always great fun and provide an opportunity for parents to socialize also. If you do not wish for your child to attend these sessions you may bring your child to the classroom after skating is over (1 hour after the regular start time).  Please provide ice skates, warm clothing and a winter sports helmet (bike helmets are NOT permitted on the ice). Your child will NOT be allowed on the ice without a helmet. Siblings in strollers, boots or skates are welcome. Again, provide a helmet if they are using boots or skates on the ice. Please be aware that these skating sessions will not be put towards your required volunteer hours. More information will be provided closer to the skating dates.

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* The playschool continues its partnership with ‘I’m for Kids Team’, an early intervention agency. Through this partnership we offer screening assessments during class times for Speech, Physical, Behavioural, or Occupational Therapy. The Alberta Government funds this program therefore it will not cost you anything! Therapy will be held before or after class times depending on your plan with the specific therapists. Information will be provided at the start of the school year regarding this. If you have any concerns regarding your child’s development please do not hesitate to speak to one of the teachers and we can send a screening package home.
* Lastly, please ensure you have read our Playschool Handbook and refer to our website and the Parent Board, outside the classroom on a regular basis to keep updated on any information or ‘important dates’ to remember!

We hope that this information helps you and your child have a happy experience transitioning into our playschool. Do not hesitate to ask if you require more information!

Ms. Emily and Ms. Jenn