



St. John's Newsletter

November 2024

November Dates to Remember:

November 11 - Remembrance Day. We are open.

November 14 - Waterloo Region Community Engagement Event. See details in newsletter

November 15 - Poinsettia Order Forms Due. Order forms will be distributed in cubbies.

November 19 - Parent Coffee Hour: at the centre from 9:30am to 11:00am Susan Butler an Occupational Therapist from Kidsability will be here for to talk about picky eaters.

November 29 - Poinsettia Pick-up. Please arrange to pick up your poinsettia order that day.

December 10 - Outdoor Winter Family Fun Night. 5:00-7:00pm

Family Engagement:

Thank you to all of our families who were able to make it out to our Messy Play Event. We had about 35 families attend. It was such a lovely time to connect with families and children outside of school time. The children were able to share their classroom with their family and engage in different messy sensory activities. Conversations between families and Educators help us to build meaningful relationships that inform our practice. The impact of developing trusting reciprocal relationships with children and families are profound. When children can make and explore connections from home to school, it ignites children's interest for learning.

We will be hosting a parent connection day for one on one parent educator meetings in January. More details to come.

Professional Learning Day Update:

As you know we had a PD Day on October 28th. Educators had the opportunity to be inspired, connected with others and grow through 33 guest speakers, networking, and collaboration. As continuous learners, our team is excited to focus on our personal and professional growth in the field of early learning. Thank you to all the families for your continued support and understanding why this day is so important. Thank you to the region of Waterloo for putting together some amazing guest speakers and workshops for the staff to attend throughout the morning. Also a big thank you to Christine, Kim and our board of directors for giving the staff a wonderful afternoon of team building as well.

Did You Know?

We are a charitable organization. We can provide a tax receipt for any donation made. Many companies will match your donation. We would welcome any size donation to our playground fund. Thank you.

Poinsettia Fundraiser:

We will be selling Poinsettias this year as a school fundraiser. The order forms will be attached to your child's cubby. Please return completed forms to the office by Friday, November 15th. Poinsettia plants will be delivered on **Friday, November 29th. All plants must be picked up that day.** Payment for your orders will be processed through Kindertales on Friday Nov. 29th.



Clothing:

Families, please label all your children's clothing especially outdoor clothing. Children come in from outdoor play, stand in the hallway, strip off everything and leave it on the floor. While educators are left to sort out the hats, coats, boots, etc. The process is so much easier when everything is labeled with your child's name. Thank you so much for your help with this simple task. You can also purchase Mabel's Labels and support our school. Click the link below to go to Mabel's Labels and enter our school's name with no period or apostrophe; [St Johns Christian Nursery School Waterloo](#)

We also wanted to give you some suggestions for winter outdoor clothing, as we will be spending a lot of time outdoors in the winter months as well. Try looking for water proof mittens with thumbs. Make sure the mittens fit your child's hands, as mittens that are too big restricted their play. Bienenstock recommended mittens from H&M, they are water proof and warm. This mittens fit large so you will want to look at the 6-12 month size (even for preschool age children).



Colourful, durable and fun labels
for everything that leaves your house!

SUPPORT OUR
FUNDRAISER!

Outdoor Winter Family Fun Night

Please save the date for our outdoor winter family fun night. It will be held here at the nursery school on **Tuesday, December 10th from 5 - 7pm**. More details to follow in the December Newsletter.

Making Learning Visible

Educators will be making all the wonderful learning visible through our pedagogical documentation that will be displayed in your child's classroom. Please make time throughout the week to come into your child's classroom and view all the wonderful documentation. Documentation that is displayed in the classroom, allows the children view what they have done and ask questions to enplaned their learning. Once we take it down we put the documentation inside the binders outside your child's classroom.

Children's portfolios have documentation placed in at least one a month, that is specific to your your child. Learning doesn't just happen at school. Feel free to add what's happening at home or things your family are interested in. These portfolios not only tell the story of your child's learning, but they are a great snap shot of your child's experiences over the years. If you take the portfolio home, please remember to bring it back when you are finished so we can continue to add to it. Children often share their portfolio with other children and educators. It is a conversion stater and helps us to uncover what children are interested in and experiencing in their live.

Donation Requests for Our Program (inside and outside)

We are always in need of Kleenex, unscented baby wipes, hand soap and dish soap. If you have any to share, it would be greatly appreciated. Thank you in advance.

We are also looking for donations of materials to help enhance our outdoor play experiences. Materials Needed: 4 or 6 ft rough pine planks, big O tubes, Burlap, Rubber Mallets, Orange Home Depot Pails, spoons, bowls, muffin tins, baking trays, hockey balls, rubber buckets, and racks with wooden handles. Any of these items would be greatly appreciated by all the children and staff. Since our visit with Bienenstock we have really been excited to use our outdoor environment in new ways. Please see the photos attached from the Bienenstock visit put together by Educator Jamie.

Also the children LOVE hammering pumpkins outside. Please bring us any of your pumpkins after Halloween for our playgrounds .

Thank You Princess Auto!



We would like to send a big hug THANK YOU out to Princess Auto for their generous donation of ratchet straps, push brooms, pails, buckets, mallets for our playground. The children are so happy to use these materials each day.

Thank you so much for helping out to enhance our outdoor play space.

Thank you Heffner Toyota for your donation of tires for our playground.

September Fundraising

Thank you to all our families who have opted in to our monthly fundraising. In September we were able to raise \$585 that we put towards items for our outdoor environments. We were able to purchase some rough pine planks, ratchet sets, brooms and stumps. We are looking forward to your continued support each month. Thank you so much.

Kindertales update

Kindertales payment system has changed and when your fees come out of your payment method it will be listed as a Stripe charge not Kindertales charge going forward. Please reach out if you have any questions.

Indoor Shoes

This is a friendly reminder that the weather is starting to get wet and muddy. If you can please bring a pair of indoor shoes that can be left at school, it would be appreciated.



Food4Kids

A message from Food4Kids. "We provide an essential service for local children experiencing chronic hunger. We deliver nutritious food packages directly to at-risk, vulnerable children when they are not in school and need our help the most.

It is estimated that at least 3000 children in our community do not have access to the

nourishment they need to thrive mentally, physically, or socially. School nutrition programs help, but these programs only exist during the weeks That children attend school.”

Thank you to all who were able to donate to Food4Kids. St. John’s collected.

EarlyON Centres

EarlyON Centres, in addition to providing programming for children and families, offer onsite services that families can access free of charge. Services include **free dental screening and free full vision exams with the child’s OHIP card**. They also offer children and family counselling services as well as a free screening clinic where a Board-Certified Behaviour Analysts and speech-language pathologists can meet with you and your child.

Please follow the link below to check out locations and timing for all these services. For some, an appointment may need to be scheduled.

[On-Site Services - EarlyON Child and Family Centre \(earlyyearsinfo.ca\)](http://earlyyearsinfo.ca)

Special Needs Resources



Get the latest from your SNRC Resource Consultants and SPOT Team. Sign up to receive monthly emails with important information, resources and tip sheets, along with links to learning videos and articles that will help you to support your child. These emails will include tasks and activities to help address every day concerns.

Click the QR code to sign up for these emails.

Community Engagement Event



Date: Thursday, November 14th, 2024

Time: Drop-in from 5:00 – 7:30 p.m.

Location: *Kinbridge Community Association*, 200 Christopher Dr,
Cambridge, ON N1R 4S4

This event features:

- Children's entertainment provided by Erick Traplin
- Learn about the child care system
- Children's activities
- Opportunity to provide feedback directly to child care professionals
- Opportunity to connect with services that support children in the Early Years
- Translation and transportation supports available on request
- Light buffet dinner



Registration is required.
Scan this QR code or
[CLICK HERE](#) to register.



Learn more at regionofwaterloo.ca/childrens-access-inclusion-plan

