

December 2022

Message from Mrs. Lee

Thank you to all the parents who helped their children prepare their "All About Me" bags. The bags were a big success! The children enjoyed seeing what their classmates brought and the children loved showing others what was in their own bags. They especially enjoyed looking at all the photographs.

In November we had the privilege of going on a field trip to the Whitemud Public Library. The field trip included a tour of the library, a story time with a librarian, and then the children were able to choose a book from the children's area of the library to bring back to the preschool. I would encourage you to visit the library with your children as often as you can! They have some wonderful programs for children, teens, adults, and families. Visit the Edmonton Public Library's website for more information: www.epl.ca

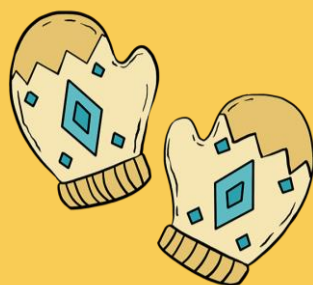
Also, if you would like to share with us how your family celebrates the holidays, we would love to learn about it. If you have a song, story, game, etc. to share with us, please talk with Mrs. Lee.



Mitten Tree

This month, our classroom will be having a "Mitten Tree." We will be collecting donations of mittens, scarves, hats, socks, etc. for our Mitten Tree. During the month of December children can bring in "gently used" or new items to the school and put them under our Mitten Tree in the classroom. The items can be for children, teens, or adults. These items will be donated to the Bissell Centre and go to families that are less fortunate. It is an opportunity to teach children about giving to others. You can start collecting items now to bring into the school from December 5 – 23.

Participation is optional.



Change of Information

If any of your information changes throughout the year (new phone number, new address, etc.) please let Mrs. Lee know. We need to ensure that our records are kept updated.

Sick Children

Please ensure that you keep your child at home when he/she is not feeling well. This helps from spreading the sickness to other children and the teachers at school. We want your child to rest when they are sick so they are feeling better soon. Alberta Health Services has requested that we record all the illnesses that the children at the preschool develop over the year to monitor any outbreaks. Please let Mrs. Lee know when your child gets sick and the symptoms that they have.

Class Photos

We will be having a photographer from *Studios Photography* come to the school to take individual pictures of the children as well as class photos. The photographer will take individual photos of ALL the children in the class even if you are not interested in purchasing photos later on. The proofs will be returned to you a week or two later and at that time you can order any photos you are interested in. No money is required before the photos are taken. Payment is required when you order what sizes of photos you would like. You will be given the list of prices for the photos when the proofs are returned. Class photos will also be available to buy. Ordering the photos is optional.

Please ensure your child is **ON TIME** for class so that everyone can be in the class photo. Photos will be taken during our regular class time on the following days:

3 Year Old Class - **Thursday Feb 16**
4 Year Old Class - **Friday Feb 17**

Musical Talents

In January we will be learning about different musical instruments.

If you, or someone you know, plays a musical instrument and is willing to come to the preschool we would love to have you share your talents with us. Don't worry; you do not have to be a musical expert to impress the children at the preschool! The children would even enjoy just seeing your instrument. Please let Mrs. Lee know.



Scholastic Book Orders

Books make great gifts!!!

You will receive the link to the monthly Scholastic Reading Flyer each month. You should also receive a paper copy of the monthly flyer in your child's backpack. You click on the link to view the books, place your order online and then your books are shipped to your house. Enter our class code before you submit your order.

Ermineskin Preschool's CLASS CODE:
"RC201406".

Ordering is optional. However, the preschool benefits by receiving free books when orders are placed by parents. There are many more items (books, learning resources, etc.) that you can order from the Scholastic website, www.scholastic.ca.

When you enter in the preschool's class code you will receive free shipping on orders of \$40 or more. Orders under \$40 cost \$7.50 to ship. Happy Reading!

Here is the link to the Scholastic Reading Flyers:

<https://classroomessentials.scholastic.ca/s/cc-ca/en/digital-catalogues>

Attendance

Please let Mrs. Lee know if your child will not be at the Christmas Party on December 22 or December 23 so she can make sure your child gets all their special "surprises" before the holidays. Also, if you know ahead of time that your child will be missing class on any day, please let Mrs. Lee know. Please remember to tell Mrs. Lee when your child is sick and let her know what symptoms your child has. You can email Mrs. Lee at melissasteed@hotmail.com.

Penguin Visit

On **Wednesday January 18**, both preschool classes (3 year old and 4 year old class) will be meeting together for a visit from a penguin! A penguin from the West Edmonton Mall Sea Life Caverns is coming to the preschool with a trainer to teach us more about penguins. The visit will take place in the community league gym. We will need extra parent helpers on this day to stay and sit with the children. Please let Mrs. Lee know if you are able to help.

Please read the plan for your child's class:

4 Year Old Class

On Wednesday January 18, you will come to preschool during regular class time 9:00-11:30. The penguin visit will be from 10:30-11:15. Please bring your backpack with your regular snack and water bottle inside.

3 Year Old Class

On Wednesday January 18, you will come to preschool from 10:20-11:20. You will only be at the preschool for the penguin visit. The penguin visit will be from 10:30-11:15. You do not need to bring a snack or your backpack to school on this day. You will still have regular class on Tuesday January 17 and Thursday January 19 (Wednesday January 18 is a BONUS day for your class).

Thank you to the Alberta Emerald Foundation for funding this penguin visit field experience for our preschool classes through their Emerald Youth Grant!



Christmas Parties

Our Christmas parties this year are on **December 22** (3 year old class) and **December 23** (4 year old class). We will need extra parent helpers these days to assist us with our party games.

ALL PARENTS are welcome to come for the entire class, but are especially invited to come at 10:45.

The children will be singing a few songs, having a short sing-along with the parents and then we will be handing out presents that we have made for our families. Children are encouraged to dress nicely for our Christmas Party.

Plan for Our Christmas Party Day
9:00-10:45 Christmas Party Games (we need extra parent helpers during this time)
10:45-11:30 Sing-along and handing out presents (ALL PARENTS are invited to be there)

Zoo 2 U

A staff member from Zoo 2 U will be coming to our preschool with 8 animals. Our students will have a chance to meet, touch, and learn about these animals. The animal visit will take place in our classroom during regular preschool class time.

4 Year Old Class –
Monday Dec 5

3 Year Old Class –
Tuesday Dec 6

There will be a waiver for parents to sign prior to this day and we will need a few extra parent volunteers to stay and help on these days. If you are able to stay and help please let Mrs. Lee know.

Thank you to the Alberta Emerald Foundation for funding this Zoo 2 U field experience for our preschool through their Emerald Youth Grant!

Fundsrip Fundraising Campaign

Thanks to everyone who participated in this year's Fundsrip fundraising campaign. Our parent fundraising coordinator Victoria will organize the gift cards a hand them out during the second week of December at drop off time. Please contact Victoria if you need to make other arrangements for receiving the gift cards that you ordered. Once you have received your cards, don't forget to pass them along to any friends or family members who contributed to our campaign!

Registration

Preschool registration for the 2023/2024 school year begins soon. Registration will be online via the preschool's website:

<http://www.ermineskincommunity.ca/registration-and-programs.html>

Registration for current students and preschool alumni opens on **January 9, 2023**.

Registration for community league members opens on **January 31, 2023**.

Registration for the general public opens on **February 6, 2023**.

Contact Information

If any parent/guardian has questions or concerns, please contact Danielle Lang - our Volunteer Preschool President. She can be reached by text, call or email, via the contact info below.

Cell: (780) 293-5533
ermineskinpreschool@gmail.com



Professional Development Day

There will be no preschool on **Monday January 30** as this is a teacher professional development day.

Craft Fair Fundraising Update

Thank you to all the families who helped to set up and bake for this year's November Craft Fair. We are pleased to announce that through our sale of cookies at the Craft Fair, the preschool raised \$1,281!



Our preschool will soon be hosting an open house! The purpose is to give prospective families an opportunity to see the classroom and meet the teachers as general registration for the upcoming school year opens. Parents and children are welcome to attend the open house. Our best form of advertising is through word of mouth, so please spread the word about our fabulous preschool to your friends, families, and neighbours!

When: **Tuesday January 31, 2023**
from 6:30-7:30 pm

Where: **Ermineskin Preschool**
Classroom (10709 32A Ave)

Important Dates

Monday December 5 – Zoo2U Animal Visit (4 Year Old Class)

Tuesday December 6 – Zoo2U Animal Visit (3 Year Old Class)

Thursday December 22 - Christmas Party (3 Year Old Class)

Friday December 23 - Christmas Party (4 Year Old Class)

December 24 to January 8 - No School (Christmas Break)

Wednesday January 18 – Penguin Visit for 3 & 4 Year Old Class

Monday January 30 - No School (Professional Development Day)

Tuesday January 31 – Open House from 6:30 – 7:30 PM

Thursday February 16 - School Class Photos (3 Year Old Class)

Friday February 17 - School Class Photos (4 Year Old Class)

December Birthdays

Aritzia – Dec 12 (3 year old class)

Kate – Dec 20 (4 year old class)

Aidan – Dec 22 (4 year old class)

Claire – Dec 24 (4 year old class)

