

February 2023

## Message from Mrs. Lee

The children and I really enjoyed learning about different instruments over the past few weeks. The children had a great time going to the Steinhauer Elementary School music room and playing different instruments there. Thank you to the special music visitors that came to our preschool to share their musical talents. The students in the 4 year old class were able to see and touch a trumpet, 3 different kinds of guitars and a flute!

The penguin presentation that we had in January was a great learning opportunity for the children. It was fascinating to see a real penguin up close and learn so many interesting facts about penguins.

## Bring Your Baby Photo to School

Each child can bring a baby photo of themselves to preschool to show their classmates. The photo can be any size. The children will be showing the other students their baby photo at circle time and seeing how much everyone has grown since they were a baby. The children will be taking the photo home at the end of class. We will NOT be using the photo as a craft.

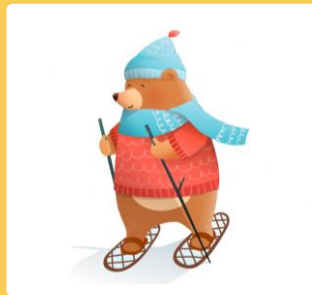
3 Year Old Class - **Tuesday Feb 21**

4 Year Old Class - **Wednesday Feb 22**

## Winter Nature Walk

On **Tuesday Feb 7** (3 year old class) and **Wednesday Feb 8** (4 year old class) we will be going on a winter nature walk around the school yard. Hopefully the weather will cooperate, and we will have a beautiful day for our winter walk! If the weather is too cold to go out we will postpone our walk to another day. We will be eating our snack early that day and then walking around the field to look for signs of winter.

Please ensure that your child has snowpants, boots, and warm clothes on the day of our winter walk. Parents can meet us close to the skating rinks to pick up their children at the regular dismissal time (11:30). We will need a few extra parents to help us get ready to go outside and go on our walk with us. If you are able to come back early to go on our walk, you can meet us at 10:45 in the preschool. Please let me know if you are planning on coming back early to help.



## 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**

## Post Office

The "house corner" in our classroom will be turned into a post office very soon. We will be learning about the running of a post office and how you mail letters.

The next time you have a letter to mail I would encourage you to take your child with you. Point out to your child where there are big red Canada Post mailboxes in your neighbourhood. Also, show your child where your address is on your house and where other addresses are on houses.

The children will each be receiving some "real mail" from preschool very soon! I will let the children know when they can start checking their mailboxes at home for their letters.

## Scholastic Orders

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](http://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/ec-ca/en/digital-catalogues>

## CD Player for Our Classroom

We are wondering if anyone has a CD player they no longer need and are willing to give the preschool.

## 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.

## Pajama Day

On **Thursday February 23** (3 year old class) and **Friday February 24** (4 year old class) we will be having a Pajama Day. Children can wear their pajamas to school and they may also bring ONE stuffed animal and a small blanket.



## Around the World

At school we will be learning about mailing letters and the post office. Tied into this unit we will also be talking about different places around the world.

On **Tuesday February 28** (3 year old class) and **Wednesday March 1** (4 year old class) we will be having an "Around the World Day".

If you have any interesting items from places you have been we would love to have you share them with our class. Possible items could include: cultural dress, instruments, music, shells, cultural crafts, photographs, etc.

We would like each child to bring something to show the class on this day. It can be a photo of somewhere they have been or a small souvenir. It doesn't have to be fancy, it can be a photo or souvenir from anywhere. It could be a photo from their trip to the Calgary zoo, or to the mountains or a souvenir their grandma has brought back from a different place.

## Valentine's Day Party

The 4 year class will be having their Valentine's Day party on **Monday February 13** and the 3 year old class will be having their party on **Tuesday February 14**.

Children are encouraged to wear something red or pink to class (ex. red shirt, red socks, etc.).

Children can bring their Valentine cards for the other children in the class on the day of their party. You can either buy Valentine cards or you can make them from paper at home. You will receive a list of the children's names in your child's class. Writing the names on the Valentine cards at home with your child is a great literacy activity that you can do together. I know that each child is at a different stage in writing (some children will be able to write the first letter of the other children's names on the Valentines, some will need a parent to hold the pencil with them to help write out the first letter, some will need a parent to say the letters to their child as the parent writes the names out, etc.). Spread out writing the names on the Valentines over a few days so your child doesn't get too frustrated sitting for a long period of time. Please let Mrs. Lee know if you have any questions about this.

Children can bring their Valentine cards to the party and parents can help distribute the cards at the beginning of class. It is helpful if the cards are brought to school in alphabetical order because the children's Valentine card boxes will be put out on a table in alphabetical order (it makes it a little easier for the kids to hand out their cards).

## Muttart Conservatory

We will be going on a field trip to the Muttart Conservatory in March. The address for the Muttart is 9626 96A Street. The program that we will be doing is called "Little Lady Bug". We will be going to the Muttart on the following days:

4 year old class –

**Wednesday March 8 (9:00-11:30)**

3 year old class –

**Thursday March 9 (9:00-11:30)**

A school bus will be picking the children, teachers, and parent volunteers up from the preschool and dropping us off after the field trip is over. Please ensure your child is at the preschool by 9:00 so that we can board the school bus.

We will need extra parent volunteers to help with the field trip. Please note: Parent volunteers that are helping on the field trip are not permitted to bring other siblings with them. Please let Mrs. Lee know if you are able to help on the field trip.

Children need to bring a snack and water bottle in their backpack. Please watch for the field trip permission form to sign.

Thank you to the Alberta Emerald Foundation for funding our Muttart Conservatory field trip through their Emerald Youth Grant.

## 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

erminekinpreschool@gmail.com



## Indoor Shoes

The children at the preschool are growing! If you have not yet looked at the growth chart in the classroom please come and take a look and see the changes that have already taken place this year. Also, please check to make sure that you child's indoor shoes still fit him/her. I know that some of the children are close to out-growing their indoor shoes.

## No Preschool

There will be NO preschool on the following days:

**Monday Feb 20:** Family Day

**Thursday Mar 2 & Friday Mar 3:** Teachers' Convention

**Mar 27 – Mar 31:** Spring Break

**Friday April 7 & Monday April 10:**

Good Friday and Easter Monday

**Monday May 22:** Victoria Day

## Registration

Preschool registration for the 2023/2024 school year has begun!

Registration is online via the preschool's website:

<http://www.erminekincommunity.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**.

## February Birthdays

There are no birthdays in February!

## Important Dates

Tuesday February 7 - Winter Walk (3 Year Old Class)

Wednesday February 8 - Winter Walk (4 Year Old Class)

Monday February 13 – Valentine's Day Party (4 Year Old Class)

Tuesday February 14 – Valentine's Day Party (3 Year Old Class)

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

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

**Monday February 20 – No School** (Family Day)

Tuesday February 21 – Bring Your Baby Photo (3 Year Old Class)

Wednesday February 22 – Bring Your Baby Photo (4 Year Old Class)

Thursday February 23 - Pajama Day (3 Year Old Class)

Friday February 24 - Pajama Day (4 Year Old Class)

Tuesday February 28 - Around the World Day (3 Year Old Class)

Wednesday March 1 - Around the World Day (4 Year Old Class)

**Thursday March 2 & Friday March 3: No School** (Teachers' Convention)

Wednesday March 8 – Muttart Conservatory Field Trip (4 Year Old Class)

Thursday March 9 – Muttart Conservatory Field Trip (3 Year old Class)

**March 27 - March 31: No School** (Spring Break)