

September 2022

Message from Mrs. Lee

Welcome to all the families at the Ermineskin Preschool. I am delighted and excited to be spending the next school year with you and your children. Our preschool is a parent cooperative so we rely on all the parents to help it run smoothly. I thoroughly enjoy having parents helping out in the classroom. It is a great way for you to see what goes on in our class and also to see your child at play!

Every month a newsletter comes out letting you know important information about the preschool. Please share this information with other family members or friends that may be bringing your child to school or picking them up (mom, dad, nanny, grandma, etc.) Attached to each newsletter is a calendar of themes and some of the activities we are planning to do at the preschool. Many parents choose to post this calendar on their fridge or somewhere else in their house so that they can help prepare their child for upcoming events at the school. Please don't hesitate to ask me any questions that may come up during the year. I am looking forward to an exciting and rewarding year of preschool!

Attendance

If you know ahead of time that your child will be missing class on any day, please let Mrs. Lee know (ie. if you have an upcoming holiday planned or your child is sick). You can email Mrs. Lee at melissasteed@hotmail.com.

Backpacks

Children need to bring their **backpacks** to preschool every class. Inside their backpacks they need:

- **Snack bag** (a small bag that your child can take out of their backpack at snack time)
- **Snack** (nut-free snack)
- **Water bottle**
- **Change of clothes** in a plastic bag (including shirt, pants, underwear, and socks)

Please label your child's items
Please do not send toys or other items from home

Drop Off and Pick

When you arrive at the preschool please help your child get ready for class. Encourage your child to put his/her jacket on the hook first and then his/her backpack on top. This makes snack time a lot easier for everyone. Check the sign next to the preschool classroom door to see if class has started yet. The stop sign means that class has not started yet and the green light sign means that class has started. If there is a stop sign showing, parents need to wait with their child until the green light sign. We are not able to supervise children until the green light sign is showing so it is important that parents wait until the sign has been turned over (it will be turned over as close to 9:00 as possible). As soon as the teachers have explained everything to the duty parent the green light sign will be turned over by the Busy Bear helper.

Please let Mrs. Lee know if someone else will be picking up your child from preschool. If it is our first time meeting a new family or friend picking up your child, then they will need to show us ID.

Bathroom Breaks

Please take your child to the bathroom before they come to school (before you leave home or right when you get to school). This cuts down on the number of trips that we have to make to the bathroom during school time.

Parent Duty Days

Each month there will be a Parent Duty Day Calendar letting you know what day to come in and help in the classroom. When it is your day to be the duty parent, please remember to arrive 15 minutes before class (8:45). When the duty parent is late then class starts late and all the other parents have to wait with their children until everything is explained to the duty parent. Siblings are not allowed on duty days due to our licensing policy. When you arrive the teachers will let you know about your duty parent jobs. When it is your parent duty day, please bring an extra pair of "inside shoes" to wear in our classroom.

Busy Bear

On your parent duty day, your child is also a special helper in the classroom called the "Busy Bear". On your child's "Busy Bear" day, please help them choose ONE item to bring to school for show and tell. The show and tell item will stay in your child's backpack until Mrs. Lee says that it is time to bring it out for show and tell. The "Busy Bear" gets to show all the children what they have brought and explain to everyone why it is special to him/her. Some examples of possible show and tell items are: a favourite toy, a photograph (from a holiday or of family members), a sea shell from the beach, a favourite book, a musical instrument, a favourite CD, etc.

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 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.

Scholastic Book 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.

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 Flyer for September:

https://classroomessentials.scholastic.ca/s/ec-ca/en/digital-catalogues?eml=CRC/e/20220907///32980//crc/&ET_CID=20220907_CRC_t1_RM_crc_eng_ret_32980&ET_RID=-1626421858

Family Photos

Each child needs to bring to school a recent photograph of their family that includes the child, parents, and any siblings he/she may have. You can email me (melissasteed@hotmail.com) the family photo or you can bring a copy of the photo to school. Please write on the back of the photo (or in the email) the names and ages of all the children in the photo. The size of the photo should be a standard size (4 inches by 6 inches).

Please ensure you have emailed or brought in your family photo to school by **October 17** (4 year old class) or **October 18** (3 year old class).

Class Openings

We currently have spots available in our 3 year old class that is on Tuesday and Thursday mornings. We would love to fill these spots so please spread the word to those who may be looking for a preschool for their child.

For more information contact: ermineskinpreschool@gmail.com

Email Reminders

The preschool uses email messages to remind parents of upcoming events. If you would like another family member's email address added to the class email list that Mrs. Lee sends out, please let her know.

Important Dates

September 30 – No School (National Day for Truth and Reconciliation)

October 10 - No School (Thanksgiving)

Tuesday October 11 - 3 Year Old Class Fall Nature Walk

Wednesday October 12 - 4 Year Old Class Fall Nature Walk

Thursday October 27 - 3 Year Old Class Halloween Party

Monday October 31 - 4 Year Old Class Halloween Party

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