



**BANTING AND BEST CHILD CARE CENTRE
NEWSLETTER
April 2021**

Centre Update

- + Easter break is postponed to April 12th -16th,2021.
- + We welcome Kevin Yang to our Centre.
- + Austin Air purifiers have been purchased and installed in all the rooms.
- + Centre staff are continuing with the added cleaning and disinfecting protocol as listed in the Toronto Public Health Guidelines.
- + Spots are available in all the program at both Banting and Best Child Care Centre and also at our Satellite School Age Program that runs out of Prince of Peace C.S.
- + Thank you to all the parents for their cooperation in following Toronto Public Health guidelines to keep their children safe. Reminder if your child, yourself or anyone in the household displays symptoms please keep your child at home and give us a call or email us and we will get in touch with you.
- + Please dress your child appropriately as the weather keeps changing.
- + We are sad to share that Dilshani and Stacey will be leaving the centre. We wish both staff members all the best.

E-mail: bantingandbestcc@gmail.com

Website: www.bantingandbestcc.com/myhome

Dear Parents: Please feel free to e-mail us if you have any questions and concerns. The Centre is a PEANUT & NUT FREE environment. Please do not bring any breakfast, lunch and snack containing peanuts and tree nuts.

We are NO LONGER accepting Birthday Cakes or loot bags, as we are trying to limit the number of things brought into the centre due to Covid-19.



Cecilia 17th April
Sandy - 22nd April

JR ROOM

By: Bindu, Erika & Lisa

Spring is in the air! The warmer weather is finally here. Like Spring everything is refreshed. In our room we would like to welcome our new friends Julian and Kevin. We are excited and pleased that they have joined us. With the warmer weather approaching and a few of our friends are in the process of toilet training we ask parents to please have appropriate warmer weather outer wear and lots of extra sets of clothes for those unexpected accidents.

With everything that is going on in our world I would like to express in our world at daycare is still exciting and full of growth. The children have discovered volcano erupting, by mixing baking soda and vinegar, using our fine motor skills to pop bubble wrap, enhanced our language skills when we created an image with a salad spinner the children talked about the changes, and when it was too cold to go outside, we danced with streamers in the senior room.

In January we enjoyed painting the snow with our coloured water and spray bottles, which promoted their self-esteem. We explored our neighborhood and the counted all the cars. That helped our counting and colour recognition skills. When it was too cold outside, we spent our time riding our motorcycle around the senior room. We also used our gross motor skills to jump on sticky mac tac and bubble wrap.

In February children created many crafts for Valentine day. We painted hearts and glued them on paper. During this month, the children were interested in family and friend's subject. To further enhance our knowledge about families, cultures and traditions we listened to multicultural music, and stories. We also used multicultural paint to do many activities.

With the weather changing we have started to spend more time outdoors exploring and experimenting things in our playground. Please continue to Check Hi Mama about your child's day. Be Safe!

FDK 103

By: Jolentha & Bing

We've already been in the New 2021 year for three months now. Let's go back a few months back to December.

In December we got to experience some big snow falls. The FDK children took the opportunity to gather the snow and make snow forts.

With a bit of imagination, we can make anything. We tried to pile up the snow to make Mount Everest, they pretended to be mountain climbers and try to conquer the largest mountain in the world.

We brought out spray bottles with food colouring. Some of the children set up a cake shop we used molds to make cake and then sprayed the colours over top like icing. We had a blast making all the colours of the rainbow cakes.

Since we had so much snow, we went for a little hike to our nearest hills to go Tobogganing. They always enjoyed their time out on the hill.

Thank you to the parents for dressing up your children in proper winter gear so that we can enjoy the outdoors even more.

As mentioned in our previous documentations, we have a lot of creative builders in our classroom. We started a unit on building with metal pieces. It was a dinosaur kit that the children would follow the instructions to build a T-rex, Parasaurolophus, and a Triceratops. The FDK children practiced their skills in Fine Motor of using a screwdriver, screws, wrench and bolt. After learning to use the tools, we introduced them to our Make-Do Kit. It has the same components of having a screwdriver, screws, and plastic mini hand-held saws for them to cut cardboards. We have had some interesting ideas of creation; they've created a vacuum that sucks up garbage and turns the garbage into noodles to eat. It was fun and interesting learning about their ideas. With the Make-Do pieces we made a movable claw, by connecting pieces of cardboard in a X formation. The claw was able to open and close. They created a game to play, like "Hungry, Hungry Hippo". Instead of eating little white balls we were trying to grab the origami pigs in the centre.

In February we had a spark of interest into Batteries. One morning we were discussing about what some of the children had done over the weekend. One child mentions they went to Dollarama to get a 9V battery for their Toy. From there we invested and displayed the different types of batteries we can find. We discovered that Batteries come in different shapes and sizes. They also carry different voltages. The children got to do an experiment about 9V batteries and steel wool. They learned that the two together can cause an electric heat element. This method can be used as an emergency fire starter when your gone for a camping trip or out in the wilderness to make a fire.

We also experimented with a compass, we discussed about how the compass will always point in the direction of North. We learned that the Earth has a magnetic field which makes the arrow point to the North.

Another experiment we tried was sound travel. We made a yarn and cup phone, we learned that sound travels from the cup and onto the string and into the other person's ear. The children got curious and wanted to see if we can connect the yarns with a 3rd phone and even a 4th phone. Surprisingly, the sound did travel to all the yarn phones connected.

The past month, the FDK children have been interested in creating 3D art. We've turned the 1D Hama bead creations into 3D. We've been creating 3D Pokémon's, Super Mario Brother characters and an Airplane.

This year March Break has been pushed back to April. I hope the weather is nice and we'll get to discover the changes in spring. We are hoping to see the leaves and flowers to grow back. Let's continue to learn, discover, and have lots of fun as always.

SA 102

By: Lily

Time is flying by... It's already March! I hope you all have had a Happy Chinese New Year, Valentine's Day, and Family Day! After the mandated closure, we reopened our school-age room on February 16th. In February, the children were interested in scooter boarding. During snow days, the kids' scooter boarded for indoor gross motor. They did different activities with the scooters, such as relay racing, elastic limbo, and scootering run with pylons. Also, two of the older children were interested in making 3D Minecraft characters using Perler beads.

And we explored an Easter bunny tic tac toe game, tangrams, cup building, and more. In March, we got a set of K'nex construction blocks! The children really enjoyed building different structures. They were following instructions in the booklet provided with the blocks and build a speed bird & a trash can. Plus, they were building their own creations like a sword, flag, and CN Tower. We also got another game with 2 Levels of Banana games word game. One easy and one harder level. The children made it into a race. Everyone rushed to put letters on a word grid to make different words. The children did a science experiment too! It was called the Baking Soda Vinegar Balloon science experiment. They were so excited to see the balloon inflate bigger and bigger.

One of the children wanted to plant apple seeds, so we wanted to plant a plant for each child. We placed corn, beans, peas, and bitter melon seeds on plates. The children got to choose what they wanted to plant and grew them in small pots. We can't wait to see the seeds sprout and grow!

Spring is on the way! We can't wait to spend more time outdoors! Throughout these next few months, more and more vaccines are rolling out. We hope this will allow us to have more fun and do more interactive activities!

SA 104

By: Stacey

We are happy to have the school agers and staff back in the classroom! It has been a difficult couple of months with the uncertainty, but we welcome you all back and look forward to another exciting year. Since February, children have been interested in experiments. Before the closure in January, children made salt crystals. We left them by the window and observed them daily. Children learned about absorption and dissolving. Unfortunately, we were gone the entire month of January. When children returned to the centre in February, they noticed that all of the water had absorbed from the cup, due to the heat from the warm sunlight. Children were left with salt crystals, and they noticed that the salt had travelled up the string as well as the pipe cleaners.

In March, children noticed that the days were getting longer. We enjoyed our time outside on warm days. Children enjoyed playing tag and running around on the field. We also received new balancing toys, which children enjoyed; seeing who can balance on the beam the longest. Children in room 104 were interested in licence plates. They noticed them as they were looking out the window at the end of the day, to see whose parents would arrive first. We then had a discussion about licence plates and that we live in the province of Ontario. Children learned that the Ontario licence plates say, "Yours to Discover" and that they are comprised of letters and number to identify each car. A game was made up, and children were to decipher the message on the fake licence plates, then arrange them in alphabetical order from "A" to "Z". St. Patrick's Day was celebrated in room 104. Children dressed up in green, created Shamrock necklaces, clay rainbows, and pipe cleaner Shamrocks for good luck! Children also tried green smoothies, filled with apples, kiwis, pineapple, and mango. Most of the children enjoyed the smoothie, having 2nds, 3rds and even 4ths!

Children have also been interested in clay, creating clay snowmen. Some of the children experimented with mixing chalk shavings and paint into the clay, to create pastel colours. Some children decided to paint the clay once it was dry to create donuts. We look forward to spring and the warmer weather it brings! Our next project is to plant flowers. Children will have the opportunity to water their own flowers, teaching them how to care for plants. The children in room 104 have already customized their flowerpots with paint and stickers and have been looking forward to doing their own gardening. We are excited for the arrival of spring and enjoying more time outdoors!

POP - SA

By: Magda

The children at Prince of Peace Program are happy to be back to school after a long stay at home studying online. We are still constantly cleaning and sanitizing all the toys and equipment after every single use every day. We are happy to share the news that we have air purifiers in our room purchased by the centre which will help to keep the air clean.

In the month of February, the children were excited to come back to school and to the centre. They just celebrated the Chinese New Year. We continue to discuss about how they celebrated this event. This year it is the year of the Ox. The children drew an ox and later painted it. Some of the children made a big poster to decorate the Drama Centre which they pretended to be a Chinese restaurant.

When it was Pink Day, some of the children came without any pink items on them and were not happy about it. I said how can we solve this problem? The children decided to create things with the colour pink. One of the children made a big poster and she called it 'A happy pink day' poster. Another child created a pink bracelet. We talked about why it was called 'Pink Day' and why we should be nice to each other. It started when a student wearing a pink shirt was bullied by two other students in a school. To show support for the bullied student, the school got every student to wear pink shirt on one day which later became Canada's national pink day.

The children were interested in chess and checker games. Siblings would played against each other. Other children who played with no-sibling partners maintained social distancing by learning ways to play without touching or getting too close.

This month (March) all the children were very interested in creating different things with Hama beads. They made 'Among Us' characters in different colors, sizes and shapes such as hearts and many others. We went outdoor every day after snack. During snow days we went tobogganing and building snowman or snow fort. Now with the warm dry weather the children have been enjoying playing soccer, basketball, volleyball, and other group games.

We are now about the end of March, and as the weather is getting better, we will be able to enjoy the sunny warm weather with lighter clothing. Be safe everyone.

POP – KG

By: Angela

POP KG has been bursting with activity since we returned to school after the mandated school closure! The children were happy to see each other and Angela, and we are glad to be back!

We celebrated some fun events like St Patrick's Day where we had a money scavenger hunt around the classroom and followed along with an alphabet yoga video for some exercise. The children have been very interested in the alphabet and we have been practicing spelling our names and simple words. The children are becoming more motivated to try to spell unfamiliar words with the help of a teacher, so we have also been practicing our letter sounds.

We created islands as a spontaneous weeklong project, where we learned about how to make a legend/use symbols, how to use colours to show terrain, and sorting animals by their habitat. The children worked hard to make their own unique islands and used their imaginations to bring it to life through dramatic play with wooden people and animal toys. Eddie named his island "Dinosaur Island" and Abby named hers "Flower Butterfly Island". We talked a lot about some of the animals and where they live - they used this information to classify their island animals. Children asked lots of questions about the bugs and animals - perfect opportunity for discussion as we head into spring!

We enjoyed the last of the snow with some new toys - the children loved going sledding down the big hill and shoveling snow with their big shovels. Now, we are enjoying the spring weather and are looking forward to having some more outdoor picnics and longer outdoor play times!

Just a friendly reminder to families – please continue practicing the hand washing routine at home. As weather warms up, we may need to start applying sunscreen before outdoor play. Please remember to supply sunscreen for your child.