



## BANTING AND BEST CHILD CARE CENTRE NEWSLETTER September 2021

### Centre Update

- ✦ We would like to welcome Scarlett, Mason, Amyra, Kimani, Zafeera, Zachariah, Christain, Silas, Gabriel and Sophia to our Centre. We would like to welcome back Nyla-Marie, Avinash, and Thaenuygen to our centre.
- ✦ Monica has joined our team of staff. Welcome aboard, Monica.
- ✦ Schools are reopening on September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021.
- ✦ We wish Evan W, Rachel and Hazel all the best as they move to our Satellite program at Prince of Peace. We will miss them over at Banting and Best site.
- ✦ We also would like to wish good luck to Kevin Yang, Lilyan and Mattheo as they leave at the end of Summer Camp.
- ✦ Staff at the Centre are continuing to follow the Toronto Public Health and Ministry of Education Operational Guidelines.
- ✦ Preschoolers and Kindergarten groups at Banting and Best CC site will continue to use HIMAMA. Pictures of the activities that your child participates in, meals and any other information will be sent through HIMAMA. For School Age groups and Kindergarten groups (at Prince of Peace), the staff will email the children's activities and documentations to parents through email.
- ✦ Spots are available in all the rooms at both Banting and Best and also at our Satellite program at Prince of Peace.

E-mail: [bantingandbestcc@gmail.com](mailto:bantingandbestcc@gmail.com)

**Dear Parents:** Please feel free to e-mail us if you have any questions and concerns. The Centre is a PEANUT FREE environment. Please do not bring any breakfast and snacks containing peanuts and tree nuts. We are NO LONGER accepting Birthday Cakes, along with Loot bags. This is due to COVID-19, as we are limiting things that are coming from homes. This is to ensure that all children and staff are safe. Thank you for your understanding.



Sept 1 - Samuel D  
Sept 6 – Mattheo  
Sept 9 – Evan W  
Sept 27- Allen

Sept 3 – Kaeshaav  
Sept 8 - Avinash  
Sept 24 – Faithen & Jaden L

# **JR ROOM**

## **By: Bindu, Lisa, & Erika**

Fall is on the way. The summer is almost done. In our room we would like to welcome our new friends Juan, Mason, Amyra , Scarlett, Zafeera, Zachariah, Silas and Christian. We are excited that they have joined our room.

In the month of June, the children were interested in the solar system, so we decided to do the space aircraft with recycled cardboard and painted it with blue & red. Children were also interested in a variety of colours and created different crafts.

The children noticed that the environment is changing as the trees are growing, the small plants and flowers are growing. One child saw the root and asked about it to the teacher. Then we decided to do a project about the germination of seeds. The children will check every day when they enter the room. One day they noticed the root coming out. Then we planted some tomatoes, coriander, dill and beans in our day care playground.

It's summer and the weather were getting hotter. Since children loved water play, we decided to have it every Wednesday (individual bin). The children were so happy & excited to play with water that they added several equipment's and did many science experiments with water. We took turns in watering the plants in our garden. We planted tomatoes and the children were excited to see the fruits. Once the tomatoes were ready, we washed them and had it for snacks.

Summer is hot and children were interested in cold treats like freezes. We turned our dramatic center into an ice cream shop. Children discussed about different flavours and their favourite flavour. They were also interested in making flower with construction paper after seeing various types of flowers on the way to the daycare.

Whenever the weather was good, we spent more time outdoors by exploring and experimenting things in our playgrounds. We also played many games.

A big thank you to the parents for your co-operation and their patience during this time. We hope you all enjoyed the summer with us, and we look forward to seeing you in September!

# **FDK 103**

## **By: Jolentha & Milly**

The summer is winding down hot. The weather has been good, with lots of sunshine and cool breezes. We got to meet again in person, meeting new friends and old friends.

Our adventures outdoors was a fulfilling one, catching Locusts, Snails and listening to the humming of Cicadas. The FDK children tried to set a record each day of how many locusts we can catch. Our highest record was eight. We couldn't find a lot of Snails because it didn't rain too often. When we did, we stored them in a bug catcher and fed them cucumbers. We watched them slowly devour the fresh cucumbers, what a sight to watch them eat. When the weather was nice, we had picnic lunches. When the days were hot, we cooled off with some water play and a nice cold treat to end the day.

There was a day the children were interested in glow sticks. We bought some from the dollar store. We compared the different sizes of tubes. We charted down which glow sticks would last longer. The long thin glow sticks or the short chubby glow sticks. We found that the tubes holding more liquid last longer than the thin glow sticks. Then we came up with the question of "How does the glow sticks glow?" We discovered that inside the glow sticks it has another inner tube that contains a special liquid. When we crack the glow sticks the two liquids mix to make the glowing effect. With the glow sticks in hand, we turned off all the lights, closed the curtains, and we had a dance party in the room.

Creating, building, and imaginary play is always a big thing that goes on in the FDK Room. Creating with boxes, constructing with tools, and using dramatic play toys to engage with our friends. A highlight of this was when we created castles from the many big boxes. Each child was able to create their own castles decorating the inside and outside. Some used popsicle sticks, others created with construction paper and each castle had their own flag colours to represent each child.

The most recent outing we had, we took a camping tent and headed out into the backfields. There we set up our camping area under a big tree for shade and enjoyed a game of toilet tag. We lay in the tent and watched the clouds and planes go by.

This summer was a hot one but we're coming to the end of summer camp. We wish you the best of luck in your next school year. For those returning, welcome back and let's get ready to learn, explore and play together again. To those leaving us to start a new school year, it was a pleasure to have you in our summer camp, good luck in your new journey and to a new school year.

Have a wonderful and safe school year.

# **SA 102**

## **By: Lily & Tharani**

This summer has just flown by. Although the circumstances have been quite strange, the children have managed to have lots of fun. In July, they spent more time outdoors to explore nature. Interestingly, they observed insects like grasshoppers in the school field. The children found two different types of grasshoppers and decided to search on the Tablet to identify them and find out what they like to eat. Then, they tested which grasshopper could jump the furthest. Moths were also found in the school field. One child saw a white moth on the tree, and he was curious about it. He asked, "what are the yellow things on the bottom of the moth?". After the teacher explained to him, he asked the other children to help him find more moths. In the classroom, the children enjoyed playing board games such as Guess Who, snakes and ladders, rush hour car game, chess and Monopoly. The children also did crafts, with some older children building 3D wooden animals, while the younger children did stick on numbers and perler bead Pokémon characters.

In August, the children enjoyed many outdoor activities. They participated in motor games like relay races, red light green light, statue, octopus, frozen tag and more. Additionally, they did a magnifying glass experiment outdoors. Each child got a magnifying glass, and they placed a tissue paper on the rock. Then, they held the magnifying glass to get the best position facing the sun. In the classroom, the children had an idea to turn cardboard boxes into dragons. They taped three boxes for the dragon body and wings. They painted the boxes green and painted the wings pink and yellow. Afterwards, three children did the dragon dance. One child brought a tree branch to the classroom, and she turned it into a violin to make music. Once the boys saw the violin, they came up with other ideas to use the tree branches. They made a crossbow along with paper for the arrow. When it was all assembled, they tested how far it could shoot.

As the school year approaches, we hope that everyone stays happy and healthy, and we look forward to having more fun in the classroom

# SA 104

## By: Bing & Raina

After a long time staying at home taking online classes, our children finally can come back to the class this summer. In the class they followed the rules to wear masks and washed their hands properly all day. They even tried to remind each other to keep their distance when they played together. Good job!

When they walked around the field, they saw a pine tree had lots of new green pinecones and someone found a half green and half brown one. It was amazing. After a rainy day, they found some mushrooms hiding in the grass. They got some mulberries from a tree and knew that the black one is matured, which means they can pick it up, and that the green and pink ones still need to grow. They also found a variety of beans and fruits in the neighborhood. These fruits have different shapes, sizes, and colors. Our children discussed which is bigger, which is their favorite one, and then they decided to plant some wildflowers in the class. They watered their plants every day and watched them grow.

Our children were not only interested in the plants, but also the bugs. They looked for ants using magnifying glasses and found that some ants had different colors and sizes. They took some ants and put them in a bucket to watch them move, or even fight with others. They used shovels to dig the ground under a tree to try and find an ant's home, and then teachers showed them some pictures to help them understand the anthill. Through these observations, they knew the body parts of an ant and used the clay to make the ants in the classroom. Some of them put their clay ants beside their plant pot and wanted them to become friends. One day, they saw a cicada that they didn't know before and tried to know more things about it. We watched a video called, "The life cycle of cicadas" on a video in our tablet to help our children obtain new information.

Our children were also interested in the special weather. One morning, they talked about the tornado which happened close to Toronto. They spun their water bottles to make a tornado inside the bottles and asked teachers to let them watch a video of tornadoes on YouTube. Through the video, they understood how the tornado happened, and why it so dangerous. Another day it was raining outside. Our children watched the rain through a window. A child told his friends, "The sky is crying!" "That is the water cycle!" another one had said. The children and teachers talked about what the water cycle is in the class. Our children really wanted to see it, so we decided to make water cycle bags. We took a zip bag and drew a water line on the bag's bottom and a sun on the top, and then filled the water to the water line. After we sealed the bag and hung our bags on a sunny window, we waited to see what would happen. The day after, a child went to the window. She touched the bag and told her friends surprised, "Come on. It's warm." Her friends came to see the bags. A child said, "My bag is not clear." After he touched his bag and found there were lots of droplets from inside the walls. That helped our children understand the water is heated by the sun and it turns into a gas, and when it hits the sides of the bag and cools, it becomes solid water again. As the water drops grew larger and heavier, they begin to fall back down into the bag. Our children had lots of fun from this water cycle bag experiment.

Through indoor activities, our children have lots of chances to do arts, dramatic play, read books, make words or sentences using letters, playing with UNO cards, and playing Tic-Tac-Toe together, but building STRUCTURES is their favorite. They used different types of blocks to build houses & vehicles

In August, our children liked to build things with some cardboard boxes. Some children wanted to use a big box to make a house. They used the plastic saws to cut a rectangle on one side to make a door and cut a square on the other side to make a window. One of them used a small box to make a cat and named it "Timmy". He told his friends, "This is Timmy. Let's make a house for it." He then wrote "Welcome to Timmy's house" on a sign plate and stuck it near the door. Another one put a cushion into the box to make a bed for Timmy and built a shelf inside the box to help keep things for Timmy. They tried to make a roof on the top of the house, but that was so hard to stick with tape. At last, they found "Make Do" toys and used the screwdrivers to connect the cardboard together with the screws. Well done! In the end they painted the house colorfully and liked to take a picture with it. Now that summertime will soon come to an end, let's hope that we will have exciting experiments during the new school year. Have a safe and wonderful school year, everyone!

# **POP - SA**

## **By: Magda, Atiya & Hamida**

After a long stay at home the children came to back to the program for the summer camp. They were excited and wanted to play with their friends. They said studying online was boring and they prefer to come to school to see the teacher and their classmates in person.

The children were very interested in making slime and each child created his/her own slime from glue, contact lens solution, baking soda and a little water. They enjoyed the experiment, mixing and adding more ingredients. Some of them added food coloring and glitter. They stretched and squeezed it to make different shapes. They had a lot of fun playing with it and kept asking to do the slime activity every day. The children also worked with air-dry clay and shaped it into different things. They said it felt nice and soft. They also worked with other kinds of clay too. Most of the boys liked to fold paper into airplanes and then go outside to fly them. They also liked to work with origami paper. They folded it into Ninja Star and other objects.

It has been a hot dry summer so every day after we come in from outdoors, the children liked to experiment with ice! We have a fridge in the room, so we put water into different shaped containers. Some are big while others were small, and each child has his/her own container of ice to experiment with. Some of them carved the ice into a sculpture and it was amazing what they could do with it. This activity serves many purposes. One of them was to cool down and another was to show their creativity. They also challenged each other on how long it takes a piece of ice to melt completely and why?

Once a week we go out to play with water in the sun. Each child has his/her own water container, water balloon or water spray gadget and playfully sprays his/her sibling only, or other objects such as a tree, the grass or a wall, etc. They do a lot of running around and enjoy the activity very much. Every day we go outdoors twice to enjoy the fresh air, play different and safe activities such as hula hoop race, running race, skipping rope race, soccer, badminton, 4 Square, Helicopter game and floor hockey. When they get tired, the children sit in the shady area, drink water, talk to each other or play a group game. When outdoors, the children liked to search for butterflies, moths or worms.

We are now at the end of the summer camp. The school will open soon and hopefully everything stays open. Good luck in school!

# **POP – KG**

## **By: Angela & Firdous**

It has been a long, hot, and eventful summer in the POPKG Summer program!

The children have been very interested in the nature we see on our neighbourhood walks. We started a bean sprout-growing project where we grew our own bean sprouts and documented its growth on a flower board, which is displayed, in our classroom. Alongside this project we did a lot of nature related activities, including a bug scavenger hunt and a nature sorting game. The children were very responsible about remembering to take turns to water our plants with a schedule that we made. The children even took responsibility to water plants we saw on our walks, looking for buds and wilted flowers that were close to dying. We have become familiar with some of the bugs that appear on our playground. The children listen for the sounds of cicadas in the trees, watch bees on the flowers, look for anthills, and have even named a Monarch butterfly that always comes to our playground "Belle". The children water our plants on the playground as much as possible so the bugs can be fed and excitedly point out if any new flowers sprouted on our walks.

To end our project, we had a pyjama party in our classroom where we dressed up in pyjamas and brought in some big blue mats to jump and watch Fern Gully; The Last Rainforest, which was a movie about what happens when people destroy the earth. We had talks about what we can do to help the earth, and what they think our earth will look like if people continue to disrespect the earth. We have been practicing eco-friendly practices like separating garbage from recycling and watering flowers with spray bottles to help them grow. Our tiny class has started to grow as we welcome two new students to our summer program - Vicky and Kimani! In September we will be saying goodbye to two of our students as they move onto Grade 1 in Magda's class - Abby and Vicky. We will miss you! Please continue to practice and washing and social distancing as much as possible. As we prepare for a new school year and possibly more children returning this year, hygiene practice is important as ever!