



BANTING AND BEST CHILD CARE CENTRE NEWSLETTER

June 2022

Centre Update

- ✦ The Centre will be CLOSED from July 4- 8,2022 for Cleaning by TDSB and TCDSB. Please make arrangement for your child care for that week.
- ✦ Centre will be CLOSED for Canada day – July 1st, 2022 (Friday)
- ✦ Summer camp will operate from July 11 - Sept 6, 2022 at Banting and Best Child Care Centre and Banting and Best School Age Satellite Program (at Prince of Peace C.S.)
- ✦ Fun filled workshops and activities have been booked for summer. Calendar of events will be shared shortly mid June.
- ✦ Staffs at the Centre will continue 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.
- ✦ Limited Spots are available in all the rooms at both Banting and Best and at our Satellite program at Prince of Peace.

E-mail: 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. 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

Happy
Birthday 

June 6th -Christian
June 12th – Chloe Z.
June 13th – Lydia & Ryan L.
June 22nd -Luis
June 23rd -Charles

JR ROOM

By: Atiya, Bindu, & Lisa

Summer is around the corner. The warmer weather is finally here. In our room we would like to welcome our new friends Calvin, and Hailey. We are excited that our Jr. room is full with 16 children. With the warmer weather approaching we ask parents to please send appropriate warmer weather outer wear and extra sets of clothes.

In March, the children were interested in animals and from their interest we made paper bag puppets of lions and giraffes. We read many books about wild animals and domestic animals and learned about how to tell apart wild animals from domestic animals and also how these animals live and their characteristics.

In April, we celebrated Easter. The children showed interest in making paintings using the colors red, blue, purple, and green that they painted on the eggs. This activity helped the children with their fine motor skills by using the Q-tips for painting on the egg using their pincher grasp skills. The children noticed that the environment is changing, as the trees are buds and leaves are growing and flowers are blooming. We talked about Earth Day and related it to the environment. We talked about what to do to help our environment for example avoiding the use of plastic bags, and plastic. That way we can keep our Earth clean and healthy for other generations to enjoy. The children created with blue, green, and brown paint on a piece of circle paper to create their representation of an Earth. We also explored many books on the environment and how to help it.

In May, we went for a nature walks around our neighborhood, children were excited to see the earth worms one day after it rained. One child asked the teacher why the worms are coming out when it's raining. The teacher showed some video related to the question. The children were eager to know about it and talked through out the day about the worms and what they had learned.

In June, we are planning to plant tomatoes, strawberries, and flowers in our centre's garden. Children are happy to see 2 tomatoes plants in our room. The children actively take turns watering them.

We would like to thank the parents for providing hats and sunscreen. As the weather is getting warmer, please dress-up your child according to the weather. We suggest long sleeve shirts and long pants for sun protection but understand it maybe too hot for the children. Please make sure the children have running shoes while in program. Please also bring extra clothes as we will be doing a lot of fun and exciting activities that may pertain to water or getting messy.

A big thank you to the parents for your co-operation and their patience during this time. Stay safe and enjoy the summer!

FDK 103

By: Jolentha & Bing

Extra, extra, read up all about us in this month's newsletter! It's spring already, lets spring into a recap of the last three months.

March, March, March, we had our last snowy winter or so we thought, till we had another snowstorm in April but's let's focus on what we did in March.

We slowly started reintroducing tricycles back for the spring and summer months. The children still got on their bikes picked up their shovel and helmet. They began to excavate the ice from the ground. Then they would carry the ice blocks back with their wagons dragging behind their bikes to a new location they proceeded to pretend to sell ice blocks to the other children.

The last bit of March brought on wet slushy/packing snow. The FDK teachers took this opportunity to teach them how to make small snowballs that can be rolled into a big snowball, that in turn turned into a snow person. We explored the little forest patch to scavenge sticks and pinecones for our snow person. When we gather the sticks, Bing (RECE) got the idea of drawing pictures on the freshly fallen snow.

Indoors the FDK children were always busy building. We learned new techniques and ways on how to place Lego blocks to make it look like a flat screen TV on a stand. Wither it was building with Lego, Duplo blocks, Snap Clicks, and Linking cubes, building, and connecting was a big part of their creativity.

Language activities started to become an interesting topic with the FDK. We made alphabets by connecting linking cubes together to make block letters, Lego Alphabets by piecing them on the flat board or making it 3D. Since the spark of alphabets, we started introducing Alpha Duplo. Alpha Duplo were small blocks that had written letters. The S. Ks used the alphabets and made simple sentences such as, "Can I go to bed dad", or "Who is the ant". The JKs were involved with constructing alphabets using Letter Constructions. Letter Constructions consist of straight lines that come in various sizes, C's and U's for curves. In the alphabets when writing lower case letters, it contains of lines and curves as well. The JKs were spelling out their names and simple words they see every day such as, Stop, Go and Colours. The FDK children started to get creative with spelling, we used pipe cleaners to bend to the shapes of the letters as well.

We went from building and constructing alphabets to now writing on the chalk board. One popular book read almost everyday was "Chicka Chicka Boom Boom" by Bill Martin Jr. They loved listening to the read a long and now can recite the words out loud. Retelling stories by drawing a coconut tree on the black board and adding magnetic alphabets onto the board to represent the letters climbing to the top of the tree and then falling as well.

Spring has arrived and lately it's been feeling a lot like summer. We were very fortunate that we have a staff that loves to garden, they had donated two cherry tomato plants to our group. In our kindergarten playground we have several garden plots. What a great opportunity to learn about plant growth.

One day in May when the weather was so beautiful, we noticed that the trees were starting to pop out buds. We explained to the children that these were the first signs of spring. We also asked, what have you noticed from winter to spring? What do you see that came back out? Ants, birds, and squirrels. We explored with all our senses that day, smelling the cut grass, the rain after it has fallen and listening to the songs of birds. In the afternoon we got out the garden tools, we got a lesson on how to properly handle the garden tools and how to be safe around each other while holding the tools in our hand. Together we dug and loosened the soil, while others got out the spray bottles and watering cans to make the soil a little bit softer to dig. As we dug, we saw different types of creepy crawlies living under the ground.

Digging and excavating was an activity they were interested. They started digging a circle around the tree. The teachers realized they had just created a moat around the tree.

The weather has been so nice we've already had a few picnics outdoor. Enjoyed some rays, opened a lemonade stand. They pretended to make different concoctions by dropping different water flavours to make special lemonade. For the Summer, please provide your child with a water bottle, sun hat, and sunscreen. Have a wonderful school year. For those returning let's have an awesome, fun filled summer.

SA 102

By: Lily & Tharani

In March, the school-agers explored some sensory activities such as slime, cornstarch Goop (Oobleck) and instant snow powder. They played and found out how to stretch the slime by sticking one side on the table and stretching it out as far as they could. With the cornstarch Goop, they pulled it apart, as well as squashed and stretched it, watching it slowly drip as it alternated between solid and liquid form. For the snow powder, they added food coloring and water into the snow powder and played with it. Some older children explored the Geoboard, where they stretched rubber bands around the pegs to form line segments and polygons and made discoveries about perimeter, area, angles and more. Other children did a baking soda and vinegar experiment as well as a salt and glue experiment. For the baking soda and vinegar experiment, they used a pipette to pump the colored vinegar solution and squeezed it onto the baking soda. They created a word "Hi" and polka dots. For the salt and glue experiment, they created a butterfly and letter R with a heart shape beside it. They sprinkled salts all over the glue painting. The next day, they used watercolor paints to color the design.

In April, the children enjoyed building tangrams. They built animals, numbers, and shapes with tangram pieces. Some older children enjoyed sketching. They chose the character from the game that they played at home and searched on the iPad to get a clear image to sketch. On Easter Monday, the children did a chocolate egg hunt in the classroom. They also reversed roles and asked the teacher to play while they hid the Lego pieces. The children also played a bean bag toss game, where they used nine hula hoops and wrote numbers 1-9 on the paper plate. The rules were that the further they tossed the bean bags, the more points they would get. To record the score, they created a score sheet and added all the points that they gained during each round.

In May, the weather got warmer, and the school-agers enjoyed playing on the playground. They played monkey bars, slides, climbers, and lift bars. Additionally, they played some games such as Manhunt, Tag, Grounder, and Blind man's Bluff. It's springtime, so Dandelions are everywhere on the school field. One child was curious about why dandelions only have yellow color. Due to this curiosity, we did a color changing dandelion experiment. The children were amazed to see some leaves had changed color the next day. For Mother's Day, the school agers decorated a face shield with flower stickers, crystal stickers, and rhinestone stickers. Also, they made perler bead heart shapes and origami flowers. Lastly, in the classroom, the children enjoyed playing a Foosketball board game. They had to control the bar and shoot the ball into the basket. As the end of the school year slowly approaches, we are looking forward to seeing some familiar faces at summer camp. For summer, please provide sunscreen, hat, running shoes and water bottle for your child as we are planning lots of fun filled activities.

SA 104

By: Monica & Raina

Birds are returning, buds are showing, flowers are blooming, we are well entering Spring. Entering our program are Connie and Harry who we bid welcome! We are saying goodbye to Faithen who we have watched grow and learn with us during the summer and the school year. All the best! Board and card games continued to be a large hit with the children as we ventured into games like Battleships, Connect Four, Dos and UNO All Wild. These games gave children a chance to learn spatial relations such as, reading coordinates, strategies to play and learn for each round, as well as, playing competitively but also fairly.

Art was a large interest in children's mind as they took part in crafts for Easter, Valentine's Day, Mother's Day, and St. Patrick's Day. Crafts were largely drawn from children's interest as stamping, glitter, and glue. Gifts for birthdays and special occasions of mind for some while others created on intention to create.

The start of Spring brought about rain, wind, hot temperatures however we kept to our regular activities outside. The school playground was accessed recently, and the children adored. Monkey bars, slides, and ladders were all advised to use with the upmost safety. The children practiced in understanding the limits of what they can do. Team sports where they began to practice their passing and aim began to be an attraction. Basketball, soccer, badminton, scoops with balls were some of the sports in the children learned about sportsmanship, fairness and cooperating as a team. The children's outdoor activities evolved as we grew to have an interest in streamers, bubbles, and kites. A paper streamed up towards the roof and the children watched as wonder as they questioned how it happened. Some children began to enjoy crafts outside as they colored rocks, marked chalk on the pavement and created symmetry art.

Families, please be advised that sunscreen, running shoes, sun hats and short sleeved clothing are highly recommended considering the weather changes. Please continue to ensure that children's water bottles are filled and present during the day. We are excited to enter Summer as we have a variety of planned experiences for the children. Thank you for your continued support.

POP - SA

By: Magda, Hamida, Lydia

Spring has finally arrived, and we don't have to wear snow pants or too many layers of clothes to keep us warm.

First, I would like to welcome Lydia, our new addition to our staff team at Prince of Peace. You may have seen her with your child/ren in the POP SA room. Staff and children welcome her to the program.

The children enjoyed doing sports outdoor especially Four Square. When I introduced, or mentioned different games to play as a group, few raised their hands and said, we have our new game Four Corner, or Four Number which are different names they like to use for Four Square game. We tried to introduce new outdoor games to them but Four Square is still a favorite game among the children.

Our March break was a busy week. The children decided to transform the Dramatic Centre into a Pizza store. They cooperated in making pizza crafts using big and small paper plates. Each child designed his or her own favorite pizza. They made their own first and second menus and designed everything needed in a pizza store including: cash, coupons to encourage customers to buy pizza at a discount. They chose the roles of manager, cook, waitstaff and dishwasher. They worked on this project consistently every day of the week. They placed a table outdoor to help serve the customers – and children took up their different roles. It was a week of cooperation and sharing of work that involved all the children, as well as learning how to plan and think about everything needed to run a pizza store, which they called a Pizzeria.

We have a bunch of little engineers in our Room. They can build anything with any objects we have in the room. They use different boxes to build a microwave oven or use Lego to construct a mansion with very nice layout and an airplane to go to faraway places. Listening to their conversation shows how much technology has helped to widen their knowledge. A group of children were in discussion about what they were planning to do with their activity. They invented a story about a mayor who invited them to Las Vegas for his birthday. They decided to build an airplane to fly to Las Vegas and they stayed in a fancy hotel, had lots of fun dancing and many other activities. Their story was very interesting and got the whole group interested in their ideas and play. The children are constantly surprising the staff with their ideas and creativity.

In May we celebrated Mother's Day. The children were busy making things for their important person in their lives. They wrote nice words on cards that they created and decorated. Some also created heart-shaped braided baskets while others made flowers. Now the weather is getting sunny and warmer which will allow us to go outdoor more often to enjoy the fresh air, have weekly picnic, and play different games in the field. Parents, please send along with your child(ren) their sunscreen, sun hat, running shoes and water bottles. We are now planning a safe and exciting summer program.

POP – KG

By: Angela & Firdous

Spring has sprung in the POPKG Daycare program. Our class now has 9 children. I would like to wish a big warm welcome to Rita, who has joined our program.

The children have been very interested in animals, and we learned a lot about predators vs. preys. The children have been recreating scenarios about predators and prey in their dramatic play and stories, as well as practiced classifying animals by habitat. As a final culminating project, we enjoyed an aquarium viewing of the Monterey Bay Aquarium where we looked at different sea animals and their habitats. The children all worked together using what they've learned to create a big aquarium, adding elements that protect humans and prey.

For Easter we enjoyed a few fun Easter activities, like egg designing and a fun Easter egg hunt outdoors! The children took turns hiding their eggs for the group, turning it into a "hot/cold" game about directions.

We have also been testing the inquiry of balance – both in building blocks and our own bodies. The children have been practicing a lot of gross motor balancing on balance beams, seesaw boards, and walking cups. They have also been spontaneously practicing the concept of balance using building blocks and a toy scale.

We have also been very into ice cream and have been lucky to catch the ice cream truck as it made its way through the neighborhood. After discussing the menu and our favorite treats, the children created their own ice cream shop using big plastic blocks. The children worked together to build the truck, write the menu and prices, as well as assign roles to each other so that everybody could participate. Children rotated between being shop owners, customers, waiter/waitresses, and even included a taxi driver to drive the children to the store!

Just a reminder to families to please pack sunscreen (labeled with child's name) and extra summer clothing (hats, shorts, short sleeves, etc.) Now that the weather is getting warmer, we will be spending more time outdoors!