



**BANTING AND BEST CHILD CARE CENTRE
NEWSLETTER
December 2025**

Centre Update

- ✚ Winter Celebration will be held on December 12, 2025 in the Gym at 6:00 pm
- ✚ The Centre will be CLOSED on December 25th (Thursday), 26th (Friday), 2025 and January 1st, 2026.
- ✚ We welcome all our board members and thank them for their continued services.
- ✚ School Reopens on January 5th, 2025.
- ✚ Wishing all our Families, Board of Directors & Educators a Wonderful Season!
- ✚ Staff at the Centre will continue to follow the Toronto Public Health and Ministry of Education Operational Guidelines.
- ✚ The weather is changing, so remember to dress your children appropriately. Please remember to send an extra set of clothes.
- ✚ 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. Please do not bring any breakfast and snacks containing peanuts and tree nuts. Please make sure that all foods have the ingredients list including any treats in the Loot bag.



Dec 1st – Kelvin

Dec 13th - Brian & Cios

Dec 18th – Alex L

Dec 20th – Charles

Dec 23rd- Silvio

Dec 6th – Tahlia

Dec 16th – Zackary

Dec 19th – Henry

Dec 21st – Justice

Dec 25th- Princeton

Junior Room

By: Atiya, Milly & Joanne

The past few months in the Junior Room has been filled with curiosity, creativity, and the joyful spirit of learning! As we transitioned from summer into fall and winter, the children continued to explore new ideas, build friendships, and share special moments together.

We welcomed the new school year, new friends, new atmospheres with excitement in September. New friendships formed quickly as the children settled into their routines. Taking advantage of the beautiful autumn weather, we spent plenty of time outdoors observing changes in nature. We watched how apples shift from green to red, and the children created their own 3D apples using paint and tissue paper. Through nature walks and hands-on art projects, their curiosity and creativity came alive as they learned about the changing seasons.

October was a month full of learning and celebration! The children enjoyed discovering the traditions of both Halloween and the Mid-Autumn Festival. A special guest visited our classroom to share stories and explain how families celebrate the Mid-Autumn Festival. Halloween brought even more excitement, from spooky crafts and jack-o'-lanterns to our costume party. The children loved taking part in festive games that sparked imagination and laughter.

In November, the children continued exploring the wonders of nature through sensory and creative activities. We gathered leaves to build our own leaf-covered treehouse inspired by our fall theme. We also began preparing for the upcoming Winter Celebration by learning festive songs and creating colorful decorations to brighten our classroom. The children showed great enthusiasm and dedication during their practice sessions.

December is a wonderful month filled with joy, music, and warmth. For our Winter Celebration, the children are excited to perform "Christmas Bunnies" and "Jingle Bells (Chinese Version)". Their enthusiasm and confidence shone as they practice their singing and dance for their families and friends. We also enjoyed holiday crafts, storytelling, and meaningful moments that captured the true spirit of the season—kindness, joy, and unity.

Throughout these months, it has been a pleasure to work alongside our wonderful Educators, families, and children. Thank you to all our families for your continued support and partnership. We look forward to a vibrant and engaging new season ahead!

Senior Room

Amy & Raina

September was a wonderful month filled with sunshine and lots of learning in the Senior Room! The children enjoyed spending time outdoors, taking nature walks, and observing the beautiful changes that come with the new season. They were especially fascinated by the way the leaves began to change color, turning brilliant shades of red, orange, and yellow. Together, we talked about why leaves change color in autumn, exploring how trees prepare for the cooler months ahead. To extend this learning, the children created their own 3D autumn trees using playdough, brown paper towels, and even the soft inner layer of masks! This creative activity allowed them to use fine motor skills and imagination while reinforcing what they learned about nature's seasonal transformations. One sunny morning, our preschoolers took a special trip to the library. They had a wonderful time reading picture books, listening to stories, and exploring the different sections of the library. It was such a joy to see their curiosity and excitement for books and reading! Another highlight of the month was our jump castle day! The children were full of energy and laughter as they bounced, played, and enjoyed this fun surprise together. It was a fantastic way to celebrate the end of summer and welcome the start of fall.

In October, we celebrated Thanksgiving, Halloween, and the Mid-Autumn Festival. To mark the Mid-Autumn Festival, we invited Educator Milly to read a special story about this beautiful cultural celebration. The children were fascinated to learn about the moon, lanterns, and the idea of family togetherness. As part of our creative learning, they made their own colorful 3D lanterns using balloons, which they proudly displayed in our classroom. Our Halloween activities were full of curiosity and excitement! The children had the chance to explore the inside of a pumpkin, discovering its seeds and learning how it feels and smells. Together, we carved a Jack-o'-lantern to decorate our room. We also took time to talk about Thanksgiving, sharing ideas about what we are thankful for and discussing kindness and gratitude. It was heartwarming to hear the children express appreciation for their families, friends, and favorite activities.

November was a month of growth, excitement, and joyful preparation in our Preschool Room! After exploring pumpkins in October, the children planted pumpkin seeds and were thrilled to see them sprout and grow. They took great care of their little plants, watering them regularly and watching the green shoots reach toward the sunlight. It was a wonderful hands-on experience that helped the children learn about patience, responsibility, and the life cycle of plants. As the weather turned cooler, we also began getting ready for our Winter Celebration! The children started practicing the song "We Wish You a Merry Christmas,". They are looking forward to sharing their performance and spreading holiday joy with everyone. Have a wonderful Season.

FDK 103

By: Bing & Najma

Hi, everyone! Welcome to our FDK before and after school program. A new school year is here. We are very happy to work with our FDK children and their families.

In September, we have some new friends who joined our group. In order to help the children better understand each other, each child made their own name tag and decorated it. We displayed these name tags on the wall so that everyone could learn the names of the other friends. We learned the life cycle of an apple, and observed the apples on the tree in our preschool playground. We did activities that were related to apples. To conclude we made an apple pie for our health eating activity.

In October, we celebrated Moon Festival together. We learned the Chinese characters and painted the moon using aluminum foil paper. We even made some mooncakes using playdough as gifts to share with our families. We listened to a story about Diwali and made diyas to celebrate Diwali. We also observed the pumpkin and squashes to know the meaning of the Thanksgiving. Halloween is the end of October. We learned the life cycle of pumpkins by reading books. Some of our children made a pumpkin name tag, and some of them drew to pumpkins on the big brown paper. We touched the dry pumpkin seeds and peeled them so that we could know what is inside. That was FUN!

In November, we discussed the meaning of the Remembrance Day and learned a poem about the Remembrance Day. We used hand prints to make the poppy wreath. Through these activities, we learnt, understood and acknowledged the courage and sacrifice the soldiers made for their country.

Winter holiday will come so. We have started to practice the songs for our winter concert now. Our FDK children are working hard practicing their songs for the winter celebration. They are looking forward to perform for the Families.

Winter is coming! Just a kind a reminder that our children need **Winter Jackets, Snow pants, Mittens/Gloves, Snow boots, Hats, and Scarf. *Happy Holidays!!***

SA 102

Lily & Tharani

September was a month full of creativity, learning, and hands-on fun! The children began the month with a **soap sculpture experiment**, where they explored texture, form, and creativity by carving designs out of bars of soap. To mark **Every Child Matters Day**, the children created heartfelt **“Every Child Matters” posters**. Through discussion and art, they learned about inclusion, kindness, and the importance of respecting and valuing every individual. We ended the month on a delicious note with a **Takoyaki rice ball cooking activity!** The children had a wonderful time mixing ingredients, shaping rice balls, and learning about Japanese culture and cuisine. It was a fun and tasty way to celebrate teamwork and cultural appreciation.

In October the children explored fascinating science concepts and seasonal traditions through a variety of engaging activities. In our science explorations, the children investigated **oil sand**, discovering its texture, composition, and the process used to separate its different components. They also made **magnetic slime**—an exciting blend of chemistry and physics! The children loved watching their slime move and stretch in response to magnets, As Thanksgiving approached, our focus shifted to gratitude and creativity. The children worked together to bake **homemade apple pies**, measuring, mixing, and taking turns as they followed the recipe. The delicious aroma filled our classroom and reminded everyone of the joys of sharing food and traditions. They also demonstrated their imagination and fine motor skills by designing **cracker box furniture**—transforming simple materials into miniature tables, chairs, and other creations!

During November, students took time to reflect on the importance of **Remembrance Day**. Through thoughtful discussions, they learned about the significance of honoring those who served and the values of peace and gratitude. The children expressed their reflections through beautiful artwork, using symbols such as poppies and doves to represent remembrance and hope. They also enjoyed **baking cookies** together, which encouraged teamwork and created a warm sense of community within the classroom. It was a meaningful month filled with creativity, learning, and appreciation.

The holiday season is fast approaching! We are delighted to announce that our annual Winter concert will be held on December 12, 2025. We look forward to celebrating this joyful occasion and watching the children showcase their wonderful performances. Happy Holidays!

SA 104

By: Sajiththa & Firdous

We started the school year with a burst of creativity and fun! The children kicked things off by making tacos, which was a great way for them to practice independence and teamwork in the kitchen. Along with food, we explored a variety of art projects, including creating diamond bead art. September was also a time for making new friends, and the children were eager to build connections. Our Jurassic World project allowed them to use their imagination and problem-solving skills, as they worked together to build a dinosaur-themed world. They also had a blast constructing a battery-powered windmill with K'NEX, which introduced them to basic concepts of engineering. A highlight of the month was our visit to the library for our book club on PA Day, where the children shared their favorite books and compiled a wish list+ of titles they wanted to borrow or purchase. We also took a meaningful pause to learn about National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. The children participated in a special activity where they created hand cutouts in various skin tones, which they personalized to reflect how they see themselves. This collective artwork became a powerful "Every Child Matters" poster that reminds us all of the importance of each individual.

October was full of autumn-inspired activities. The children enjoyed the opportunity to connect with nature and express their creativity using natural materials on canvas. As the weather cooled, we also began a fun and imaginative pumpkin farm project. The children worked with cardboard, magic modeling clay, plasticine, and stickers to create their own mini pumpkins for the farm, which turned out to be a delightful combination of art and storytelling. October was also a month of cultural exploration. Our placement student introduced us to the Moon Festival, and we learned about the customs and traditions surrounding this celebration. We also delved into Diwali, the festival of lights, where the children were fascinated by the story and the cultural significance. They got the chance to try on sarees, which sparked curiosity and questions about different customs and traditions. The month was rounded out with an exciting oil painting project, where the children experimented with different techniques, combining art with science to create beautiful and abstract pieces.

November has been a month of sensory exploration and preparations for the upcoming winter season. The children loved diving into sensory play with materials like kinetic sand, magic sand, sand art, and slime. These activities provided a hands-on way for them to engage their senses while developing important fine motor skills and inquiry-based play. On PA Day, the children learned how to make a simple yet healthy baked egg and cheese omelet. They worked together to prepare the ingredients, and everyone enjoyed the delicious results! We also took time to honor and remember our veterans in recognition of Remembrance Day. The children created beautiful poppy flowers, which they proudly displayed as a symbol of respect and gratitude.

As we look ahead, the children have begun rehearsing for our Winter Concert in December. There's excitement in the air as we prepare for the big performance, and the kids are eager to showcase their creativity and talents. With the holiday season just around the corner, we are excited about the festivities that December will bring. The Winter Concert promises to be a highlight, and we can't wait to share all the creative projects and joyful moments that will unfold in the coming month. Thank you for your continued support.

POP - SA

By: Magda & Hamida

At Prince of Peace, we welcomed William and Johan to our group. In September the children enjoyed going outdoors often to get fresh air. Some children liked to take shovels to dig to find worms to care for in our special jar. They put some green leaves and kept checking on it everyday. All the children enjoyed running around, playing soccer, volleyball, basketball or group games.

We have two homework tables for children to do their homework after snack, together, help and encourage each other to finish their homework. Sometimes they ask the Educator if they need help. Also, during September, the children discussed and learnt about the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation by wearing orange shirts. They shared their thoughts about the day. They all agreed to respect each other. They also used orange origami construction paper to make orange shirts to show their support and respect for indigenous people.

In October we discussed how thankful we are with what we have, while we celebrated Thanksgiving. We made an experiment with Turkey bones and put it in vinegar to see what happens to the bone, we found it very soft like a bouncy ball. We discussed why and one of the children said the vinegar took all the calcium from the bone. We got a different size and shapes of pumpkin, the children were amazed by it's look, they thought it's plastic or fake and are only decorations. We cut a few and they found that they were real pumpkins and that the smaller pumpkins have smaller seeds, bigger pumpkins have bigger seeds. They washed the seeds and then we toasted them, we wrapped the pumpkin in foil and baked it in the toaster. We planned to make a pumpkin pie. We made pig in a blanket for our Halloween celebration. A few children made the dough in the morning, later they all helped shaping the dough, then wrapped it around the sausage and let it rise before baking it. We decorated our room with different crafts the children created. The children helped setting up the table to welcome Jojo's class to celebrate Halloween with us. Each child was wearing their favourite costume and were acting the characters they were pretending to be.

In November we made Poppy wreaths and we remembered who fought for us a long time ago to have our Freedom. We are practicing our Christmas songs and dance to get ready for our Winter Concert. We hope to see you all.

The weather is getting colder, please dress appropriately for the weather - snow suit, hats, gloves, boots to enjoy playing in the snow and keep them warm. Thank you and be safe.

POP – KG

By: Jolentha

What a year! It's already nearing the end of December and we will be welcoming the year of 2026. Another year, another time to share. This month has been full of creativity, curiosity, and joyful learning. Our children have been busy exploring their favorite interests and sharing wonderful experiences together.

Dinosaur Discoveries

Our young paleontologists have been fascinated by the world of dinosaurs! They were busy putting together a giant dinosaur floor puzzle which they enjoyed solving. After it was finished and put together, they added our 3D dinosaurs on top of the puzzles to match the dinosaurs in the picture. They also placed dinosaurs where they belong whether in the air, sea and land. We also changed our indoor sandbox into a fossil hunt. They dug and used paintbrushes to pretend to dust off the sand off the bones like real paleontologists. We read many books about dinosaurs and our favourite series were the "How do Dinosaurs..." The children did many different activities to support their imagination of building dinosaurs, we have a Lego discovery builder book which had a page dedicated to building dinosaurs, some of us tried to follow the build to the dinosaurs, some of us got creative and tried to build using our imaginations and features of the dinosaurs. We also used tangrams and Magformers to build structures of dinosaurs. The creations were endless.

Clubhouse Creations

Imaginative play has been a big hit as the children worked together to build cozy clubhouses. They would move furniture, and added cushions and couches into their cozy corner. Pitch a topper tent and add our favourite stuffies to the corner and there we have a cozy clubhouse. These special spaces have become places for reading, sharing stories, and imaginative games — showing how cooperation and creativity can turn simple materials into magical hideaways. The children were also very interested in Pet Hospital; we had built an animal clinic with the stuffies and used the doctor set to add to the play. The children were coming up with different scenarios for each pet that would visit the hospital and they had different treatment for each pet.

Pokémon Projects

Our Pokémon enthusiasts have been busy designing their own Pokémon characters and creating trading cards filled with unique powers and stories. We put up a poster of the first 151 Pokémon's, and we tested our knowledge of guessing the names of each Pokémon. We played games asking 21 questions about the Pokémon we were thinking of. We asked questions like, what type of Pokémon, what colour was it? Was it 1st, second, or third evolution? We had a board dedicated to all the creations of Pokémon and showed off our artistic talents.

Winter Holiday and Celebration

The holidays are coming and our little ones are working on practicing our songs to sing and dance. You might have been hearing some jingles in the house. Hope that Holidays bring you warmth, and joy for the holidays. Please remember to dress your child/ren up with proper winter gear from head to toe. As always, we are so proud of the children's enthusiasm and imagination. Thank you to all our families for your continued support in helping make our child care a place full of wonder and fun!