

NOTTINGHILL NEWS



Message from the Teachers

Happy March!

It is hard to believe that February has already passed and what a busy month it was! The children had a great time celebrating Valentine's Day with all their friends, and love was definitely in the air! Thank you for all the hard work you put into getting their valentine's cards ready. The children really enjoyed giving them out to all their friends.

From all the stories we heard, it sounds like everyone had a busy Family Day weekend! What a treat to have an extra day with your little stars. The last two weeks of February, the children were busy learning all about winter and snow, something we can all relate to! Thankfully the weather collaborated and we were able to have lots of fun in the snow. We even built a few snowmen!

Sadly our Sportball sessions came to an end in February. The children have had so much fun with Coach Dana learning the elements of many sports, plus popcorn games and jungle time! It was so wonderful to see their happy faces and watch them improve their skills.

Coming up this month we have our online Auction. This opens on March 2nd and closes on March 9th. Be sure to check out all the great items, and get bidding!!!

The children will be learning about Community Helpers and Transportation this month, so keep an eye out for some fun crafts! They always enjoy these themes, and we always love learning about what jobs they might like to do when they grow up!

☆ UPCOMING EVENTS ☆

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March 2-9 • Online Auction

March 3 • Board Meeting

March 4 • JK/SK trip to Safety Village

March 13 • Last day of classes before March Break

March 23 • First day back after March Break

On March 9th we have some lovely ladies from the Reach Out Centre for Kids (ROCK) coming to set up in the front lobby from 11:00am-1:00pm. If you have any questions about your child's development, they are a fantastic resource. Please take a moment to say hi and take any leaflets, or ask any questions you might have.

Please continue to check washroom supplies regularly and top up as needed. Please also always come prepared to go outside. The weather is unpredictable this time of year and can change during the day, so it is best to have everything just in case!

We hope you have a wonderful, restful, March Break. We look forward to hearing all about your adventures when we get back.

Please feel free to chat with the teachers any time, our doors are always open. :)

Your Nottingham Teachers



Message from the President



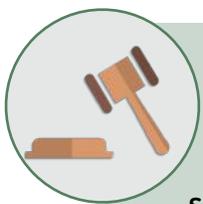
Hello Nottingham Families!

February was a busy month for our school as we have been taking registrations for the 2020/21 school year. We had a great turnout at our Open House on Saturday, February 1. A number of new families came to us from word of mouth - so thank you to all of you for sharing your experiences and letting people know how to find us. While some of our classes are full (or almost full), we still have room in our 3AM classes, so please continue to let your friends and neighbours know that registration is open. A reminder that registrations packages are now due to the Registrar's box above the cubbies for anyone that has registered for next year.

The Fundraising committee has been working hard since before the winter break to prepare for the Nottingham Silent Auction. The teachers worked with all the children to prepare a very special art piece for each class. These originals are a one of kind, so make sure to check them out. The auction will be online from March 2-9 so make sure to register on-line and scope out your favourites! Have fun and try not to be outbid before the 9:30pm close.

A reminder, if anyone would like to bring ideas forward to the Board, you can send emails to nottinghillpresident@gmail.com and/or speak to any of the Board members. We are happy to hear from you and welcome any ideas and/or feedback for this year or future years.

See you in the hallways,
Sandra



Silent Auction 2020

A chance to win a night out and pick up some great local items, all while supporting our school? Sign me up!

Our Online Silent Auction is almost up and running! The auction will begin **March 2nd**, and run until **March 9th** at 9:30 pm, and we have some amazing items this year! Restaurant gift cards, passes to popular attractions and fun experiences for the entire family are just a few of the items you could win.

All proceeds from the auction go directly to our amazing school, which is a win-win for everyone!

Please check out the auction website to see all the items available. Good luck to all bidders!

www.32auctions.com/Nottinghill2020

Thank you from the Hawkins Family

Dear Nottingham Families, Board Members, and Alumni Families,

I just wanted to say thank you from the bottom of my heart. I was overwhelmed with emotions with all the love, support, and generosity shown by everyone in the Nottingham community.

It really has been a huge boost to my recovery and a great help to us as a family in getting through this difficult situation. Words cannot express how grateful we are and blessed to be part of such a great community.

I am pleased to say I am recovering well. There is still some way to go but I hope to see all of you again soon as I regain strength and return to normal activities.

With love,
Stella





Committee Spotlight

This month's Committee Spotlight goes out to our **Scholastic Administrator, Melissa Hull!** Scholastic books are a great way to engage your child in reading. A percentage of the book order sales is used to purchase new books and educational supplies for our school. Melissa does an excellent job overseeing the Scholastic Book purchasing program by distributing and collecting order forms and delivering the purchases when they arrive. Thank You, Melissa, for your hard work and effort this year!

THANK YOU TO OUR TEACHERS!

As mentioned in our last newsletter, the parent survey revealed that what we like most about our school are our teachers! There are many obvious aspects to their jobs that we can observe and appreciate like their caring and warm approach towards our children. It is clear that they prepare and execute curriculum, keep the children engaged and work really hard on keeping craft activities fun and fresh. We love seeing the program plans posted each and every week on the board outside the creative room for a glimpse of what our children will be up to. What is not so obvious is the additional work our teachers do bright and early before school starts and after school. Our teachers are responsible for the daily maintenance of our classrooms, kitchen and washrooms. They clean the washrooms (dedicated for the children), kitchen, and classroom floors several times a day. They are also responsible for flushing the taps in the kitchen and classroom and documenting it for the ministry. The refrigerator is checked everyday for proper temperature and logged for the ministry. The outside play area is prepared and maintained everyday and documented for the ministry. Snacks are prepared daily for both the morning and afternoon programs, dishes are loaded and unloaded from the dishwasher and the kitchen is kept clean and tidy. Toy and book rotations are done a few times a month as the themes of the week change. The teachers will also often do lesson and activity planning, report cards, courses, and parent communications on their own time. So YES, we do love our teachers for all that they do - thank you, thank you, thank you! We appreciate you!



Reach Out Centre for Kids was designated by the Ministry of Child and Youth Services (MCYS) as the child and youth mental health

Lead Agency for Halton in August 2014. With programs and services that run out of 11 sites and three main offices, ROCK is committed to being inclusive, client-centred and family-centred. With over 40 years of service in Halton, ROCK is dedicated to building strong people, strong families and strong communities. Learn more about the various services offered by ROCK at www.rockonline.ca

504 Iroquois Shore Road, Unit 12A • Oakville, ON



Halton Safety Village

The JK/SK trip to the Halton Safety Village will take place on **March 4th**, at 12:45. Drop off is at **12:30pm**, and parental attendance is optional.

Please ensure you have returned your permission forms to the **VP of Special Events** box ASAP.

The trip will take place rain or shine, so please dress your child appropriately for the weather. We are looking forward to a fun afternoon!



Quality First

Our school has been participating in the Halton Region's Quality First program since its inception in 2005. We are proud to report that we passed with flying colours and have received our accreditation for 2019. Quality first is offered to all licensed childcare programs in the Halton region with the goal of continuous quality improvement. Halton Resource Connection runs the program and describes **Quality Child Care** as follows "Quality child care supports a child's emotional, social, intellectual and physical well-being. When looking for quality child care, the child care provider and the environment are critical to your child's success. Child care providers are the key to quality. Their interactions, the activities offered and the support and communication you receive will contribute to the success of your child's experience." For more information you can go to their website: <https://thrc.ca/quality-first>.



Enrolment in this program is voluntary. Quality First is in addition to and separate from the mandatory licensing requirements to run a childcare program in Ontario by the Ministry of Education. Quality First Consultants and participating centres like Nottinghill Co-op Preschool work together to identify quality improvement processes and actions that will positively affect children, families, and early childhood professionals.

Quality First supports licensed childcare programs by providing coaching, support and consultation. Several on-site observations are conducted annually for every educator on our staff by a Quality First consultant. Observations are shared with each staff member individually and a plan is established for ongoing professional learning through goal setting and monitoring, self-reflection activities, and training and development courses.

Thank you Miss Kim for continuously liaising with our Quality First consultant and to the entire staff for participating in the program resulting in our children receiving the best care and education possible during their early years!

Our **Mabel's Labels** fundraiser is a great way to help your school earn money and make sure your child's belongings come back home! We ask that Lunch Club gear (water bottles, lunch bags and containers) be clearly labeled, as per ministry requirements.

Having boots/coats/backpacks clearly labeled will help us and your child avoid mix ups!



Click here and search **Nottinghill Co-op Preschool** to purchase labels.

LET'S GET SOCIAL!



@nottinghillcooperativepreschool



@nottinghill.preschool

www.nottinghillpreschool.com





Happy March Break!



No classes March 16th - 20th



MESSAGES FROM HALTON REGION



Financial Support for Parents During School Strikes

On January 15, 2020 the Ministry of Education launched its **Support for Parents initiative** to make sure that child care and other safe spaces are as accessible as possible for any family impacted by the current labour disruption. The program also provides support to parents who are facing increased costs. Financial support will be provided to parents for each day of school that a child misses on account of a labour disruption, or each day of child care that is not available if offered from a closed school.

Eligible parents of children **up to age 12** (Grade 7), **or up to age 21 for children and youth with special needs**, in a publicly funded school, qualify for:

- **\$60 per day** for children aged **0-6** who are not yet enrolled in school but attend a school-based child care centre that is required to close on account of the strike.
- **\$40 per day** for students in Junior Kindergarten (JK) and Senior Kindergarten (SK).
- **\$25 per day** for students in Grades 1 up to and including Grade 7.
- **\$40 total per day** for students in JK up to and including Grade 12 with a special need(s).

Funding will also be retroactive for qualifying parents to cover costs already incurred due to labour disruptions that have occurred during the current 2019-20 labour negotiations.

More details about this financial support can be found by visiting Ontario.ca/SupportForParents or by calling the **Support for Parents Helpline** at 888-444-3770.

About the Ontario Child Care Tax Credit

Making child care more affordable

Ontario's new child care tax credit was created to help parents with the costs of child care and to afford a broad range of care options, including: child care centres, home-based child care, and camps.

The Ontario Child Care Tax Credit will provide families with up to 75 per cent for their annual, eligible child care expenses. Families could receive up to:

- \$6,000 per child under age seven;
- \$3,750 per child between the ages of seven and 16; and
- \$8,250 per child with a severe disability.

Starting with the 2019 tax year, families can claim the child care tax credit. Parents just need to have proof, such as receipts for the child care expenses they incurred, when they file their claim on the 2019 tax return.

It's important to note that the Ontario Child Care Tax Credit is in addition to support provided through the Child Care Expense Deduction and child care fee subsidy. This means that there is both provincial and federal relief for families toward eligible child care expenses.

Who will benefit from the child care tax credit

The child care tax credit supports families with incomes up to \$150,000, particularly those with low and moderate incomes.

To claim the child care tax credit, a tax filer must:

- be eligible to claim the Child Care Expense Deduction;
- have family income less than or equal to \$150,000; and
- be an Ontario resident at the end of the tax year.

Expenses eligible for the tax credit

Child care expenses that are eligible for the **Child Care Expense Deduction** will be also eligible for the child care tax credit.

Eligible expenses include payments to:

- Licensed child care centres – in a school, place of worship or standalone;
- Licensed home-based child care services;
- Caregivers providing unlicensed child care services;
- Day camps and sports schools where the primary goal of the camp is to care for children.

How the child care tax credit is calculated

The child care tax credit is based on the following tax filer's situation that includes:

- Family income, which is based on the income of the family members used in determining the tax filer's Child Care Expense Deduction; and
- Eligible child care expenses, defined as the tax filer's total entitlement under the Child Care Expense Deduction.

Learn more about the Ontario Child Care Tax Credit, at www.ontario.ca/childcarecredit.