



Providing a foundation for lifelong growth

December 2017 Parent Newsletter



Happy December! Winter is here! We can embrace those great activities of sledding, skating, building snowmen, and best of all, a hot chocolate or cider afterwards! Thank you for ensuring your little ones comes prepared for all types of weather each day – extra clothes, warm snow pants, boots, water proof mittens, toques. Remember, our days often warm up to the point of slushy conditions, so extra dry socks and pants are a must!

Reminder about Invoices –Please remember, if you need to change your number of days for the month, please call in to the office prior to the last week of the month for the following month to ensure your invoice reflects your intended use. Invoices are sent out to parents during the last week of each month for the following month.

IMPORTANT!

The number of allowable days in December is 20, however, all Providers are open different hours during the month of December. Please discuss days off for both you and your Provider, and sign the back-up care questionnaire to verify your agreement.

Office Hours for the month of December

December 1 through 14 th :	Monday through Thursday: 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Fridays: 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
December 15 th :	8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
December 18 th through 21 st :	8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
December 22 nd :	8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
December 25 th through January 1 st :	CLOSED
January 2 nd :	8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

WOW! Awards – Please remember our program offers parents the opportunity to nominate Providers for a WOW! Award! Simply email the office at nd@newdimensionsfamilydayhome.com, and tell us what your Provider does that makes your child's day great! Each month, all nominations go into a draw for a gift card...we love recognizing the hard work that our Providers do to make each day one of fun and learning for your children!

This month's WOW draw winner is Lorena!

Childrens' Christmas Party – Our Christmas Party is shaping up to be a fun time! If you can, you are welcome to join your child and Provider at Gaetz Untied Church on Dec. 5th, from 9:30 am to 11:00 am! Please ask your Provider about her plans to attend, and let her know if you will be coming!

Parent Sharing Corner:

Please feel free to email us your suggestions for other parents – tips for getting out the door in the morning, places you like to go, activities you like to do as a family! The email address is nd@newdimensionsfamilydayhome.com. Please put "Suggestion for newsletter" in your subject line!



Did you know...?

Dr. Robbin Gibb was recently speaking in Innisfail on the subject of brain development, attachment and the importance of ongoing communication in a child's development. Dr. Gibb has done an enormous amount of research in the area of brain development in children, and the effects in later life. There is some wonderful, practical information that can be found in a guide co-written by Dr. Gibb and Greg Pratt, B.Sc., called "Early Learning and Family Supports: A Practical Guide." It outlines several ways that parents can support optimum brain development for their children. Below are some basic tips for parents; more information can be found at:

http://www.bewfcss.ab.ca/pdfs/ELFS_Final_2009.pdf.

20 Tips for Parents

1. Be at your child's level – physically, emotionally and developmentally.
2. Look him directly in the eyes.
3. Follow her lead & build on her strengths.
4. Talk, listen and interact with your child
5. Speak in respectful tones
6. Be positive, warm, loving and responsive
7. Touch gently and lovingly
8. Don't criticize
9. Be consistent and regular
10. Promote positive relationships
11. Ask questions without one right answer
12. Accept and validate the feelings of children
13. Don't do too much for your child
14. Gently help your child stretch to the next achievable level
15. Point out and discover new things
16. Participate with children in activities
17. Let children safely experience failure
18. Connect learning to real life
19. Minimize stress
20. Be a good example of a healthy lifestyle