



Providing a foundation for lifelong growth

February 2022 Parent Newsletter



Here we are in February! There is a lot happening this month - Groundhog Day (Feb. 2), Valentine's Day (Feb. 14), and Family Day (Feb. 21)! Check out the "Did You Know" section of this newsletter for some great S.T.E.M. (Science, technology, engineering and mathematics) activities you can do with your child throughout the month!

**The number of allowable days in February is 19.
Child Care fees are due by Feb. 2, 2022 to avoid late payment fees.**

**Our office hours are:
Monday – Thursday 8:30 am to 4:00 pm
Fridays 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**



Our office is CLOSED on Family Day, Monday, Feb. 21st.

The WOW award draw winner for January is Tammy! Congratulations!



\$10/day Child Care Program - Affordability Grant and New Subsidy Thresholds!

All parents in our agency with children aged 0 – kindergarten age, contracted for 50 hours or more per month will have noticed a new line on your invoice – the "Affordability Grant". This is the grant supplied by the Federal Government for all children using licensed child care. This

grant reduces your fee by up to \$350, depending on the number of hours used, and the age of each child. **BUT** – did you know, you may also qualify now for provincial subsidy in addition to the federal funding??

That's right, if you have a household income of under \$180,000, and work or go to school, you can qualify for additional funding to reduce your child care fees even more! For more information, and to apply for the additional subsidy, go to <https://www.alberta.ca/federal-provincial-child-care-agreement.aspx>

Just a Reminder –

Your monthly invoices that include the Affordability Grant are based on days and hours stated in the contract you have signed with the agency. Affordability rates are dependent on your contract, and your child's attendance of stated days.

In addition, most Educators contract with parents in their home for a guaranteed number of days, regardless of whether the child is in attendance. This allows them to budget each month, and ensures your spot is available when you need it.

Invoice amounts will not be changed except in extenuating circumstances, or where a temporary or permanent contract adjustment has been completed 2 weeks prior to the month of the change – and only where your educator has agreed to the change.

Thanks!



Did you know...?

S.T.E.M. activities help children learn about the world around them and helps them learn the skills and knowledge that are so relevant in our society today. S.T.E.M. activities help children of all abilities and backgrounds understand that everyone can “think outside of the box” when it comes to wondering what they can do when they grow up. Here are some great websites to explore and plan your own S.T.E.M. activities!

<https://www.steamsational.com/> A website that incorporates Art into STEM thinking!

<https://thestemlaboratory.com/preschool-stem-activities/> Simple and fun ways to incorporate scientific thinking and activities everyday!

<https://littlebinsforlittlehands.com/valentines-day-stem-activities-challenges-kids/> Great ideas for Valentines Day! This will get your creative thinking going to create bins for other holidays as well!