

Newsletter



A message from the Executive Director

Happy New Year! I hope you all had a wonderful and relaxing holiday season.

A friendly reminder, Bright Starts hours of operation are from 7:30am-5:30pm. At the end of the day, it is important to arrive prior to 5:30 to pick up your child to ensure that everyone is able to leave for the evening on time. We understand our work days are busy and sometimes it can be difficult to be here by 5:30. Please remember that our staff have families too and commitments after their work. Key fobs will not permit access to the building after 5:30. If you are unable to access the building then you are considered late. Late fees are charged at the rate of \$5.00 for the first 1-5 minutes a parent is late followed by \$1.00/minute thereafter.

A message from the Board of Directors

Mark your calendars for the Annual General Meeting on Tuesday May 15, 2018. There will be numerous spaces on our Board of Directors opening up and we need you to volunteer. Consider putting your name forward for our upcoming election. More information will be sent out shortly from the Nominating Committee. As a Co-operative Early Learning Centre, parent volunteers are critical to our success.

The Board wrapped up 2017 by setting the budget for 2018. We were pleased to keep fee increases to a minimum. If you are interested in being a part of the budget process next year, consider putting your name forward to become a board member or volunteer on our Finance Committee.

Did you notice our new "No-idling" signs in our parent parking lot?



Did you know that...

- Children breathe more rapidly and inhale more air pollution than adults
- Children tend to spend more time outdoors which can increase exposure to air pollution

View the Region of Waterloo's Outdoor Air Quality

Gotta Love Winter Weather in Ontario!

We play outside 2 hours every day unless the temperature is below -15 with or without the wind chill (-10 for infants)

We use the University of Waterloo's Weather Station [Website](#) when determining the temperature.

Winter weather means packing warm clothes.

- ✓ Winter coat
- ✓ Snow pants
- ✓ Hat
- ✓ Mittens
- ✓ Boots
- ✓ Extra winter gear is good too! Especially mittens.



Did you know...that your every day shopping can help Bright Starts?

Purchase gift cards every month for groceries, gas, and other retailers. It helps Bright Starts and there's no extra cost to you. Order by December 2 to get them in time for Christmas.

Label your child's belongings using Mabel's Labels. Part of the proceeds goes to Bright Starts.

Order books through Scholastic and a portion of the proceeds helps Bright Starts buy new classroom materials, books, and toys. Watch for monthly order forms in your child's cubby and get your books within a few weeks. Please see Andrea (Infants) if you have questions.

Dietary Needs: If your child's food allergies/dietary restrictions change please let your child's educators know and update your child's records in the office.

What's my child eating?

Menu is posted:

- Online
- Front foyer
- By the kitchen
- In classrooms



Questions? Ask the kitchen staff

Immunizations: Please remember to provide the office with an updated copy of your child's yellow immunization card as your child receives updates. We need to have up-to-date immunization records on file.

Boots and Shoes: Please help keep our floors dry throughout the day by removing your wet footwear and wearing the slippers provided at our front entrance. Thank you for your co-operation.

Tax Receipts: Available for pick up in the office mid-February.

IMPORTANT DATES:

Bright Starts is CLOSED

February 19th - Family Day
March 30th - Good Friday (we are open Easter Monday)
April 13th - Annual Staff Professional Development Day
May 21st - Victoria Day

Fundraisers

Scholastic Book & FundScrip Orders

February 9th (FundScrip)
February 15th (Scholastic)
March 9th (FundScrip)
March 15th (Scholastic)
April 13th (FundScrip & Scholastic)
May 11th (FundScrip)
May 15th (Scholastic)

Events

March 1st - Senior Preschool begins
May 15th - Annual General Meeting

Board of Directors Meetings

February 20th April 17th
March 20th May 15th (AGM)

Winter weather has arrived!



When severe inclement weather occurs and normal operation poses a significant danger to our employees, children, and their families, Bright Starts CELC will close.

Bright Starts CELC will close if either the Public or Separate School Boards close, even if the University of Waterloo remains open.

When possible, a decision will be made by 6:30am. The closure will be communicated through the following methods:

- The University of Waterloo's Daily Bulletin
- Bright Starts CELC telephone voice messaging service
- Bright Starts CELC website
- An email notice from Bright Starts CELC to all families
- The Region's local news radio stations 96.7 CHYM FM, 570 NEWS

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