

Newsletter



A message from the Executive Director

The warmer weather is arriving and we are asking for your help preparing our children for outdoor play.

We spend at least two hours outdoors daily, one hour in the morning and one hour in the afternoon. Many of our programs go outside as early as 9:00am. Please apply sunscreen on your child prior to their arrival each day. Educators will apply sunscreen in the afternoons prior to outdoor play.

We embrace all elements of weather, please be sure to provide:

- A sunhat
- Close-toed outdoor shoes - flip-flops are not appropriate as they cause many trips and falls
- Rain gear - rain coat, splash pants, rain boots
- Labelled reusable water bottle

A message from the Board of Directors

As the largest co-operative daycare in Waterloo, Bright Starts depends on a combination of highly skilled staff, dedicated parents/guardians, and a group of wonderful little learners. Thank you to all who attended the Annual General Meeting where we welcomed 6 new board members. Thank you to our incoming, returning and outgoing Board members, as well as committee volunteers, for your dedication to enhancing the Bright Starts experience.

There are a number of ways for families to become involved or meet other parents. Our next Board meeting is June 18th at 6:45pm. Watch the newsletter and white board in the lobby for future meeting dates. We will also be sharing information soon on volunteering for specific Board Committees, which contribute in various ways to strengthening the centre. We encourage and welcome parents and guardians to attend board meetings, approach board members in the hallways, or reach out by email if you would like to get involved! Wishing you a safe, happy, and hopefully relaxing summer!

Our 2019/2020 Board of Directors:

President – Jennifer Bleakney
Vice President – Leanne Varey
Past President – Scott Leatherdale
Treasurer – Mark Stuart
Secretary – Philip Boyle

Directors:

Robilyn Vanos	Tatyana Reichert
Amina Gilani	Mahyar Shafii
Hassan Asif	Jennifer Tung
Owen Gallupe	Veronica Michael
Marina Ivanova	
Nomair Naeem	

Leaving Bright Starts:

September is quickly approaching, please remember we require two months written notice prior to withdrawing. Please use this [WITHDRAWAL FORM](#) or speak to Stacey, Kathy, or Karen in the office. Please remember to return your key fobs, they are reprogrammable and we would like to recycle them to new families enrolling. Have a child graduating, and you will no longer have a child in our program? Please consider donating your registration fee back to Bright Starts. Your contribution will go towards fundraising efforts and will be recognized with a leaf on our family tree located in our main foyer.



Annual Erick Traplin Concert:

Please join us along with UW's Early Childhood Education Centre for our annual Erick Traplin Concert. The event will take place on Friday June 7th on the Village 1 Green. Erick's performance will begin at 9:45 AM, we will be leaving Bright Starts at 9:15AM sharp...get ready to dance, sing and have loads of fun! If you would like to join us for the concert please sign up on the sheet located on your child's classroom door.

Fun Fair: We are planning to hold our 4th annual Bright Starts Family Fun Fair on July 25th. Our past two Family Fun Fairs have been a huge success and lots of fun. More information will be available soon.

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.

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

Every order through the **Scholastic Book Club** supports our programs through free books and resources. You can now shop online!

What's my child eating?

On May 7th we switched to our summer menu. Our spring and summer menu will provide a few "finger" options allowing the programs to experience picnic lunches outside during the warmer months.

The menu is posted:

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



Questions? Ask the kitchen staff

Summer Vacations: Please take a few minutes to share your summer vacation plans with us. A form will soon be posted in each of the classrooms asking you to share with us any dates which your child will not be attending Bright Starts this summer. This helps us to prepare and plan for our summer catering and staffing needs.

Family/Resource Area

We are continuing to develop our Family/Resource area located in the front foyer. This area offers a comfortable place for parents to connect with other parents; a place parents can access information sheets and articles of interest related to child development and behaviour. There are also stories available to read to children on topics such as grief, kindness, family structure etc.

Bright Starts is CLOSED

July 1st - Canada Day
August 5th - Civic Holiday
September 2nd- Labour Day

Fundraisers

Scholastic Book & FundScrip Orders

June 14th (FundScrip)
June 14th (Scholastic) - last order until September
July 12th (FundScrip)
August 9th (FundScrip)
September 13 (FundScrip and Scholastic)

Events

June 7th - Annual Erick Traplin Concert
June 21st - Preschool Graduation
July 2nd - Bright Starts CELC's Summer Camp Program begins
July 25 - Family Fun Fair

Board of Directors Meetings

June 18th
July 16th
August 20th



Parent Resource Corner

This blog series by Dr. Stuart Shanker and The MEHRIT Centre discusses the Self-Regulation view of mindfulness. What exactly is "mindfulness"?

[The Self-Reg View on: Mindfulness Pt.1](#)

[The Self-Reg View on: Mindfulness Pt.2](#)

[The Self-Reg View on: Mindfulness Pt.3](#)

As the weather outside improves, it creates a wonderful opportunity to reconnect our youngest citizens with nature. In 2014, the Canadian Parks Council created a fantastic report reminding us of the benefits of being and caring for nature **'Connecting Canadians with Nature: an investment in the well-being of our citizens'**. Please click on the following [link](#) to read the report.

Contact Us

www.brightstartsearlylearning.ca

519-888-4975, UW Extension: 84975

Stacey Reid, Executive Director

stacey@brightstartsearlylearning.ca

Kathy Boegel, Manager

kathy@brightstartsearlylearning.ca

Karen Hinnigan, Manager

karen@brightstartsearlylearning.ca

Jennifer Bleakney, Board President

bleakney.jennifer@gmail.com