September Shenanigans

What a busy month! It is hard to believe that our first day of school was only four short weeks ago. Over the last month we have spent time getting to know the students and teachers of the Junior Kindergarten class. We are all so unique and interesting (if we may say so ourselves!)

UPCOMING

• Next week we will have posted in our classroom sign up sheets for both parent volunteers and play clothes laundry. If you can help out by volunteering your time in our classroom or by taking home a batch of play clothing to launder over the weekend this would be much appreciated!

• Information about Field Visits for the 2011-2012 school year will be shared at our Junior Kindergarten Parent Evening on October 5, 2011.

• Check out the last page for information about upcoming events in October.

Toy Project

Our first project of the year is well underway. Junior Kindergarten students and staff are exploring the topic of toys. We have spent time reading books about toys and brainstorming some ideas we have about toys. Next we will share our favourite toys from home and explain why they are important to us. Then we will record our questions about toys and begin researching them. We look forward to a special visit from the Elementary Education Chair, Larry Prochner, who will share with us his research on historical toys. Finally, will begin to explore ways to represent our learning about toys.

END OF THE DAY SUPERVISION

At the end of the day on Tuesdays and Thursdays our class often goes outside to play. During this time the Junior Kindergarten teachers enjoy the opportunity to speak with parents about the school day and talk with individual children. Because our play area is large we ask that parents who have arrived to pick up their children do their best to help in supervision of outdoor activities. As well, we ask that you encourage your children to return any toys they are playing with to the tarmac by the shed so they can be easily put away by the teachers. Also, just a reminder that parents or students must advise teachers that they are leaving each day so that they can be officially signed out. Thank you for your help with this!

CHECK OUT OUR BLOG! Remember to check us out online at http://jrkindergarten.edublogs.org/ to see photos and writing about our days at school.
Fall Celebration

On **October 27, 2010** the Junior Kindergarten class will be holding a celebration of our learning so far this year. Our celebration will take place during our regularly scheduled class time, **9:00 - 11:30 am**.

**WHAT WILL THE DAY LOOK LIKE?**
Come to our classroom and share in the learning activities we engage in on a daily basis. Share in our daily meeting, music class and explore our classroom. Our celebration will also include some special Fall-focused activities. We will enjoy a pot-luck style snack - would you like to bring something to share? Please see the information.

**WHO SHOULD COME?**
Any family members who are available to attend our celebration are more than welcome. We also understand, however, that many parents and family members are not available during the day. With this in mind we are planning some of future celebrations during the evening. If you are unable to join us during the day on October 27th please don’t worry! Students who do not have family members in attendance will participate in the same activities as those who do - don’t worry, we know that schedules are busy! Please note: siblings are also welcome during our celebration but we ask that parents ensure adequate supervision of any other children who accompany them (particularly younger siblings.)

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**READ-IN WEEK**

**When?**
Oct. 17 to 20, 2010

**What?**
Each day a guest from the University of Alberta will come to our class to share a story with us. We are excited to share our classroom with members of the faculty.

**Who?**
Guests from the Faculty of Education including Kathy Smith.

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**EARLY CHILDHOOD CLASS**

On October 12, 19 and 28 a small group of students currently taking a course through the Faculty of Education called Program Environments in Early Childhood Education (EDEL 355) will be visiting our classroom. The U of A students will visit our class for approximately one hour each day to observe the way our classroom runs and how our students and teachers interact.

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**Dates to Remember**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 27</td>
<td>Special Sharing Days: Toys</td>
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<td>Sept. 28</td>
<td>Class Photos</td>
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<td>Oct. 5</td>
<td>J K Parent Evening</td>
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<td>Oct. 4/11/18</td>
<td>Early Childhood Ed. Observations</td>
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**FALL CELEBRATION SNACK**

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR SHARING WITH US!
For the Fall Celebration Junior Kindergarten staff will supply juice boxes, plates, napkins and cutlery. We welcome you to bring a snack to share with the students and parents of the Junior Kindergarten but we stress that this is NOT an obligation. If you choose to bring a snack on the day of the Celebration please keep in mind that it should not contain nuts and that several of the children in our class eat a vegetarian diet.