



April 2007

Volume 1 Issue 6

BCC BUZZ

BRIGHTON CHILDREN'S CENTER

IMPORTANT DATES

Directors meeting Wed. April 18	7:00 pm
Spring Raffle Tickets—hand in	April 5 Mar. 23
Dietitian—Family Lunch	April 30
P.A. Day	April 27

INFORMATION

- Don't forget your Sobey's tapes and Canadian Tire money
- **Summer Camp** - registration forms will be available in late April
- **Family Lunch & Social Time for Parents/ Caregivers & Children** - on Mondays at the United Church.
Crafts/Play 10:30 - 11:30
Lunch 11:30-12:30
- **Spring Raffle** for Doll House (donated by Brighton Lions Club), Children's Bicycle donated by Trenton Canadian Tire, & a Home-made Quilt

PROGRAM NEWS

From Your Executive Director

Another month has come and gone, and soon we will be seeing buds on the trees and blooms in the garden! As a new center, we are experiencing some growth and development as well. The payment policy for the **Before and After School** program was reviewed at the Board of Directors meeting in March, and the changes made are as follows:

- Payment is expected for Stat. holidays that fall on your child's regularly scheduled day, and for all days your child is scheduled to attend.
- As per the Parent Handbook, there is no refund or credit for sick days or days your child does not attend.
- Payment is **not** required for PA Days and school holidays when a full day program is being offered but your child is not attending (ex. March Break).
- Changes to your schedule must be submitted to Staff at least two weeks prior to the change. If the change is made with less than two weeks notice, you will be expected to pay for the original schedule **and** the changes.

If you used holiday days for March Break, you will be credited the same number of days. If you paid for March Break and your child didn't attend, please subtract that amount from your next payment. Make a note on the cheque so I can balance your account. Remember, these changes affect the Before & After School program only, and will be added to the Parent Handbook in the next printing.

Our licensing representative from the Ministry of Children and Youth Services completed her inspection on March 20. Everything went well. Please notice the "No Smoking" signs posted at all entrances into the Centre, and be aware that Brighton Children's Centre is a smoke-free environment.

(cont. on page 3)

Monthly Chuckle

A little girl was talking to her teacher about whales. The teacher said it was physically impossible for a whale to swallow a human because even though it was a very large mammal its throat was very small. The little girl stated that Jonah was swallowed by a whale. Irritated, the teacher reiterated that a whale could not swallow a human; it was physically impossible. The little girl said, "When I get to heaven I will ask Jonah". The teacher asked, "What if Jonah went to hell?" The little girl replied, "Then you ask him".

To Contact Our Centre

PHONE NUMBERS

Day Care and B and A School 613-475-1811
Preschool 613-475-4217

WEB SITE

www.brightonkids.ca

EMAIL

admin@brightonkids.ca

Before and After School Tidbits

April is Here! How quickly time flies. The Before and After School Group have been busy as beavers getting the room ready for Spring! Everyone pitched in and helped out cleaning up the room and decorating it for Spring and for all the Special Guests we had visiting our room.

The March Break Program was a success. We went skating everyday and enjoyed snacks from around the world. We made an assortment of crafts from around the world including Australian Rainsticks. The next P.A. Day is April 27th. Lunch and snacks will be included for those who attend. Please let Amanda or Katherine know if your child will be attending.

Thank you to all the parents who sold raffle tickets on behalf of The Brighton Children's Centre. Good Luck to all who entered the names in the draw!

Out with the snow and in with the rain. Along with rain comes mud. Now that we have access to the gym on days when the School-agers can not get out, having an old pair of indoor shoes here at the centre would be very beneficial. The kids have enjoyed the last couple of times we were lucky enough to go to the gym when it was raining. Our favorite game right now is Dodgeball, even the teachers get into the spirit of it!

Please remember to check the Parent Board for all the updates and new information. We have also added a Kids Board to the room, it includes our daily schedule, our weekly program plan with all our activities and all the kids sign up sheets. Feel free to check it out!

Have a safe and dry month!
Amanda and Katherine

Day Care Days

Spring has sprung! Although March brought it's share of wintery weather, it also ushered in the warmer, rubber boot weather! Our children have been enjoying the chance to dig in our terrific sandbox and ride the cars around the yard. Bright coloured crafts have been springing up, too! We've even begun some planting activities. Of course with the arrival of warmer weather, we need to remind parents again to dress children for the weather. When making new purchases of shoes, boots, jackets and other clothing remember to consider your child's ability to get dressed independently. They are always anxious to get out the door to the yard!

Now that April is here, Easter is right around the corner! We are closed for Good Friday and are looking at numbers and staffing for Easter Monday. Because we may have fewer children, we will also need fewer staff. If you need care for that day, please let staff know right away to ensure we have space for your child! There will be plenty of Easter activities happening all week. We will be having some Easter celebrations happening on the Wednesday and Thursday before Easter. There will be traditional egg dying, and basket making. We will be having an Easter egg hunt outside and playing games. We will also be having a tea party and will even be making our own treats!

Later in the month, we will be doing some Earth Day activities. We'll be exploring how recycling works, things we can do to help the environment, and some more planting to make our space as green as possible!

That should keep us all very busy for our first month of Spring! Hopyy Easter from the Day Care Staff!

Diana, Rhonda, Annette, Sandra and Penny

Executive Director (cont. from p. 1)

Some of you are already thinking ahead to the summer, and have been asking questions about reserving Day Care spaces for the fall. For those families in the Preschool and Before & After School programs, simply completing the new registration forms (available in late April) and paying the registration fee will reserve your spot. As the full day program will be running all summer, the policy is a little different. If your child is currently attending the Day Care program and you wish to take the summer off, you will be required to pay a holding fee of one day a week (\$26) to reserve your spot for September. Of course, that will be your day to use as you wish! Why not book appointments, or do groceries, or have a lazy day in the sun knowing your child is being well cared for in our air-conditioned Centre! You will need to let us know in advance what day you will be using each week so we can staff accordingly. Unpaid holiday days cannot be used to reserve your spot for September.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns I can be found at the Centre between 6:45 am and 3:15 pm every week day!

Happy Spring!

Annette

Family Lunch

Now that the worst of the flu season is over our numbers have increased and many weeks we have new faces at the table. The children are enjoying our new toys and bright newly decorated room.

Lu Smith, our faithful volunteer is recuperating from her operation and hopes to be back with us by the end of the month.

April 30 at 11:00 am, Kim Leadbeater, the dietitian at the Health Unit, will be coming to the program. She always has some interesting food ideas. She will be able to answer questions about the new Canada's Food Guide as well.

Mary & Katherine

Preschool Chat

If anyone needs to bring in raffle tickets and money, the time is now!

Hoppy Easter everyone. We have been hopping around the Preschool, and enjoying our performance stage. Dyeing eggs is a fun process but we know the product doesn't normally make it to the car before the fatal drop or crack! We enjoyed our tell a Yoke days at snack time at preschool. We have found that the Knock Knock jokes get the biggest chuckle, and the laughter keeps on going if you mention stinky, or any kind banana joke! Our first week of April will be short with the preschool closed on the Friday as well as the following Monday, but we will be busy preparing for our egg hunt by making Easter Bunny baskets and Rice Krispy nests.

The rest of the month our theme will be Muddy Puddles, and Springy steps. and splash pants and rubber boots will be a must. On April 19th, and 20th we will be taking a walk to the park, weather permitting!

We will be experimenting with mud, and mud pies in the sensory area, as well as Jello goop! Pudding painting with our feet, who will dare!?

Just a reminder of our peanut allergy. If your child must have peanut butter on his/her school day, ensure that their face is clean and clear of peanut butter before coming to school.

Happy spring
Robyn, Katina, Laura

ITEMS OF INTEREST

Web Sites

- **Brighton Children's Centre**
For local links and other relevant links
www.brightonkids.ca
- **New Canada's Food Guide**
http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/fn-an/food-guide-aliment/index_e.html or see link on our Web site

Books

Better Sleep For Your Baby And Child: A Parent's Step-by-step Guide to Healthy Sleep Habits
Author—Shelly K Weiss approx. \$16.46

Books can be ordered from the Library.

Community Events

Summer Camp

Brighton Children's Centre will be offering a full day program with nutritious snacks & lunch provided. It will be an indoor and outdoor program with trained educators and will be fully licensed. There will be theme weeks, excursions, and workshops.

Ages 5-12 yrs.

Phone for more information 613-475-1811.

Registration—Thurs. April 26 and Fri. May 11

Early Years

Well Baby Drop-in—Apr. 11 10:00 am-noon
Connecting with your Baby—Apr. 17 10:00 am-noon
Talking Literacy with Trelani—Apr. 20 10:00 am
Toy Lending Van—Apr. 23 12:00-1:00 pm

East Northumberland Secondary School

Magic Show—with Evans & Evans
Sun. Aprils 29 at 2:00 pm
Limited Space—get more information at Elementary School offices.

We would like you to contribute ideas for this part of the newsletter. If you know of events coming up, let me know (Mary Gibb 613-475-2888). It can be Brighton Events, or events in the area of interest for children &/or parents.

DAY CARE & FAMILY LUNCH RECIPE

LOW-FAT BANANA CHOCOLATE CHIP CAKE

1	cup	sugar
1		egg
2	medium	bananas, mashed (1 cup max.)
1/3	cup	applesauce
1	cup	low fat vanilla yogurt
1	cup	semi-sweet chocolate chips
2	cups	flour (all purpose or use ½ whole wheat)
1	teaspoon	baking powder
1	teaspoon	baking soda
1	teaspoon	salt

1. Preheat oven to 375 F. Grease and flour a 9 inch bundt cake pan (also works in a 9x13" pan).
2. In a medium bowl combine sugar and egg and blend well. Add mashed bananas, applesauce and yogurt & stir to combine. Stir in chipits.
3. In a large bowl combine flour, baking powder, baking soda and salt. Make a well and pour wet ingredients into the well. Stir just until dry and wet ingredients are mixed. Spread batter into prepared pan.
4. Bake for 20 min. at 375 G. Reduce heat to 350 F and bake for another 20-25 min. Remove from oven and let sit in pan for 15 min. Invert bundt pan onto rack to cool.

PLAYDOUGH (Day Care)

2 c.	flour
1 c.	salt
4 tsp.	cream of tartar
2 c.	water
2 tbsp.	vegetable oil
	colouring - food colouring or unsweetened kool-aid powder work well

Combine dry ingredients in med. size pot. Add wet ingredients. Stir over low to medium heat until dough sticks together to form a ball.
Remove from heat and knead until smooth texture. Place in airtight container to keep fresh. Enjoy!