

Billing Dates:

December 12

January 9

February 6

Closures:

December 26

December 27

January 2

February 20



K.I.D.S. Inc.

December Newsletter

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Contact us



**Happy Anniversary
at Montrose!**
Andrew—6 years!



Happy Anniversary at South Pointe!
Francine—31 years!
Emily—4 years!



Holiday Closures



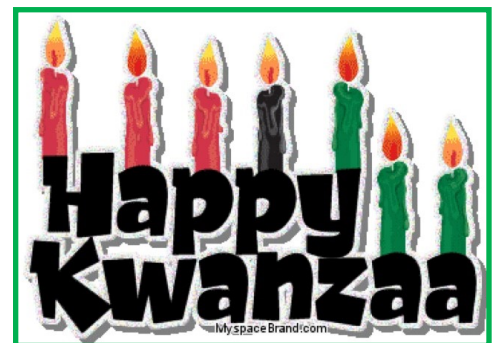
We are closed

December 26

December 27

January 2

We are also closed Monday, March 27th, 2023 for a Custodial Holiday (first day of spring break).



From Karen's Desk:

Thank you to families who are keeping children who are sick at home. We recognize that this is difficult for families but it is one step in reducing the transmission of viruses. As of the week of November 24, we are experiencing higher than normal absent days for children and educators. The K.I.D.S. Inc. community members are making decisions on vaccination for themselves.

The Winnipeg School Division reported recently a twenty percent absence rate. We are experiencing the same amount of children who are not attending due to respiratory illnesses. We all hope this will improve soon.

We need some Chicken Soup for the Soul! Take a look at what is happening in all of our programs. We have implemented STEAM experiences, Indigenous program learning, Music experiences and parent evenings at all three sites. The children and educators will work together to have a fun filled holiday break!

Please complete the attendance surveys so we can plan for the children who are planning to attend.

Wishing everyone a safe and warm holiday with family, friends and enjoyment.

Karen Ohlson
Executive Director
KIDS Inc

SOUTH POINTE NEWS

South Pointe has a few new faces at the centre. Please welcome Bafraw, Hannah, and returning to us, Andrea. All three new childcare assistants will be emersed in any one of our 3 programs.

All our programs are scheduling some family interactive times within the month of December. Please look out for emails regarding the dates and times for you to come and participate in your child's program.

Enjoy all the festivities within the month of December.

Francine Margoese
South Pointe Site Manager

SOUTH POINTE NEWS

South Pointe Infant News

The children in the Infant program have been enjoying lots of different sensory play experiences. Sensory play allows children “to help to build nerve connections in the brain’s pathways. This leads to a child’s ability to complete more complex learning tasks and supports cognitive growth, language development, gross motor skills, social interaction and problem-solving skills” (www.educationalplaycare.com/blog/sensory-play-important-development).



All the Infant Rooms love water play, sensory doughs (such as play dough and cloud dough), and sensory bins (with nature items, shredded paper). Anything your child can explore through their five senses (taste, touch, smell, sight, and hearing) can be turned into a sensory learning experience.

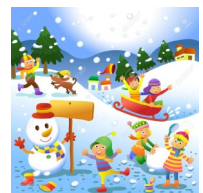
Sensory play doesn’t have to be messy play- why not try this simple, mess free sensory experience that the Oak room shared: in a large zip top bag, add hair gel, any materials according to kids interest (such as pom poms, glitter, foam shapes, etc.) and food coloring/ paint. Tape to the window, table, or floor and let children explore.

Jenn Sutton, ECE II

Infant Program Supervisor

South Pointe Preschool News

The educators in all of the preschool rooms are embracing the sights and sounds of the new winter season. Many outdoor experiences are inspiring joy within the children (some of the youngest ones in our programs for the first time)! Using the shovels, building and forming new objects in the snow, riding and pulling their friends in the sleds and just simply discovering the wonders of this magical item “SNOW” are occurring daily.



The preschool educators are incorporating holiday decorations in all of the rooms as well as child-inspired art. We are looking forward to having families come in this month to enhance the relationship connection with our preschool families.

Submitted by Francine Margolese in absence of Laura Alkana, Preschool Program Supervisor

SOUTH POINTE NEWS

South Pointe School Age News

Tamarack Room

Cynthia and Joban provide the most amazing experiences for the children. I am honoured to see these two educators plan and implement experiences for the children. There is so much thought and consideration put into their planning. They not only think about the needs of their entire group but also consider each child's individual needs.

Thank you, Cynthia and Joban for everything you do for our Kindergarten aged children.

Cottonwood Room

Cooler weather does not stop Cottonwood from enjoying the outdoors. The Cottonwood group spent the majority of September and October outside.

The cottonwood team of educators (Lindsay, Simmi, Charini) recognizes the importance of being in nature and providing an outlet for the children's energy. The children now advocate for being outside. These educators have educated the children on risk-taking, turn-taking, management of emotions, respecting nature, numeracy, literacy skills, patience, cooperation...

I am blessed to work with these educators every day in the Cottonwood Room and they are remarkable. I'm so happy to be working with such an amazing group of educators and children.

Poplar Room

An In-service in the Poplar Room is something else. Rosette and Emily plan and prepare an extravagant day. Planning an entire day for the oldest school-age children is quite the challenge. Each child has varying needs, likes and wants. These two educators have perfected their programming and offer experiences that entice their interests.

There are many positives that this duo brings to the group but I'd like to mention relationships. They have both developed amazing relationships with the children in this group. The strong connections with the children are one of the greatest achievements you get when working with the older group. Every time I walk into the room I hear conversation and laughter.

Lisa Klassen ECE III
School Age Program Supervisor

MONTROSE NEWS

Welcome to Malyoun who will be substituting at Montrose and Sir William Osler, and Ashleigh who will be working with the preschool program!

Thank you to Alexis's dad for stripping the copper for the art project for the Library group!

Thank you to Connor's family for the bag of puzzles!

Be sure to come to our Family Event on December 14th from 4:00-5:30!

Montrose Preschool News: Behind the Scenes

The educators are enjoying beautifying the rooms with holiday décor and child-inspired art. We really enjoy the lights, trees, and window decorations. During our community walks, we have been observing the decorations people are displaying in their yards. The children are practicing their cutting skills by making paper snowflakes, or fine motor and creativity skills by decorating paper trees, stockings, stars and candles.



Music is in the air! We have music playing in the background with either jazz, classical or traditional holiday songs. Our favourite type of music, of course, is the sound of the children's own voices singing songs together during gathering times.

Be sure to take a look at Shae Lynne's *Literacy in the Early Years* and *Potty Training Board* in the Boreal Forest, and Lena's beautiful tree made of yarn in the Prairie room. The children will be adding ornaments next week. Erin has decorated the Prairie room door with adorable gingerbread cookies with pictures of the children on them to help provide a deeper sense of belonging to their group!



Jean Chorney ECE III

Preschool Supervisor

MONTROSE NEWS

Montrose School Age News

School Age at Montrose for last few months have been filled with exploration and wonder while we got into the groove of our routines.

Each group has focused the planned experiences that foster the relationships and pro-social learning. These experiences have deepened their understanding of emotions, sharing ideas, helping others, problem-solving and collaboration.

A common theme in the groups is “cause and effect”. At EDP, this comes through learning about legislation and how a bill is passed, exploring dominos, setting up Rube Goldberg type experiences, and playing games like sliders and corn hole. The Gym group has loved building dominoes and ramps, setting up little shops, playing mini hockey, and creating different crafts. The Library group has enjoyed building different ramps and marble mazes, playing different games like sliders, card games, and chess; also different STEAM challenges such as building 3D structures, creating their own mazes, and colour mixing.

The children are looking forwards to “Mall in the Hall” on December 8 and are excited to share what their classroom is creating for it. We are adding to the event by creating winter decorations for the school to hang in the hallways.

K.I.D.S Inc’s Winter Family Event will be on December 14, 2022 at 4:00 pm – 5:30 pm. We look forward to spending this time with the families again after such a long time, along with featuring what our programs have been up to, highlight the educators, creating together, and enjoying a snack. I am honoured to be leading this terrific school age team and program!

Giovanna Rossing, ECE III
School Age Supervisor

SIR WILLIAM OSLER NEWS

At K.I.D.S. Inc. SWO, playing games together is always popular past time. Engaging in game play brings some many benefits from developing critical thinking skills, social skills, fine and large motor control, as well as teaches children how to show empathy and cope with the whole experience when winning or losing. It's also just lots of fun to play games together!

At K.I.D.S. Inc., we definitely have some group favourites. Many children enjoy playing card games. In preschool, some group favorite card games are King's in the Corner, and Crazy 8's. They also enjoy playing Sequence for Kids and Junior Monopoly. In school age, the Beaver group enjoys playing the cooperative game, and Heads Up, Seven up. All groups, especially the Bears and Sabe love to play Chess! We have a game at K.I.D.S. Inc. SWO called 5 Minute Mystery. It is a box game that was purchased at one of the local toy shops in Winnipeg. It's a great quick engaging game that is played with 1 or more players that work together to find clues to solve the mystery! The older children can independently play this game while the younger groups need a little support to complete the game. A game that is very easy and quick to play for children is called Microbes. This is a small box game that is small and easy to take anywhere. It only requires a small table to play. It a fun game for all ages!

We recently purchased the game Telestrations. This is fabulous game to play with all ages. This game combines the games Telephone and Pictionary. This game can generate many laughs together! A group cooperative game children enjoy playing at K.I.D.S. Inc. SWO is Doctor, Doctor. This game can be played either inside or outside as a group. The children stand in a circle holding hands and then get themselves all twisted up. They then need to work together to become untwisted without letting go of their hands.

Over the summer, one of the educators brought in the game What Do you Meme, Family Edition. This was a very popular game all summer long! In the Wolf group, the children enjoy the game You've been Framed! It a race type of game that requires you to quickly replicate an image from a card using various sized and colored wood frames. You need to think and act quickly in this game!

We recently purchased the game Code Breaker. I personally am very excited to play this with some children as I played this all the time with my sister growing up!

Chess is played with all groups on a regular basis. Often you can walk in a room and find a small group gathered around two engrossed players in a very serious chess match! It's such a wonderful sight to see the children support each other through the game whether they are playing or observing. They often teach as they go so that others learn the moves and rules of the game.

As part of our December family event, we will be having a station with some new quick games that families can try out.

Continued on next page

SIR WILLIAM OSLER

The Educators also have their favourites that they like to play whether at home with their families and friends, or at K.I.D.S. Inc. with the children.

Here are some that they shared:

Robyn- Sequence for Kids and Monopoly Jr.

Eva- Carcassonne

Denise- Carcassonne and Magic Mountain

Sonja- Twister

Yasameen- 5 Minute Mystery

Cooper- Heads Up, Seven Up

Melanie- Mancala, Sequence and Monopoly Deal

Brenda- Balderdash and Crib, especially family crib tournaments!

Denessa- 5 Seconds and Uno.

Karen I- Uno and Scrabble.

Julia- Uno and the card game War



Playing games together creates wonderful memories. We have so many games at K.I.D.S. Inc. These are just a few of examples of some we play on a regular basis. If you have any family favourites you would like to share with us, please feel free to let an educator know as we are always looking for new games to try!

Melanie Watts

Program Supervisor

