

# NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2025

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# **CHILD CARE PAYMENT DUE DATES**

DECEMBER 8, 2025 JANUARY 5, 2026 FEBRUARY 2, 2026 MARCH 2, 2026

# **WINTER BREAK CLOSURE DATES - ALL SITES**



DECEMBER 24, 2025 - CLOSED AT 11:30 AM

DECEMBER 25 & 26, 2025 - CLOSED ALL DAY

DECEMBER 31, 2025 - CLOSED AT 11:30 AM

JANUARY 1, 2026 - CLOSED ALL DAY

\*CENTRES ARE OPEN ALL OTHER DAYS/ TIMES\*

# K.I.D.S. INC. NEWSLETTER



# **COLDER WEATHER IS HERE**

REMEMBER TO SEND JACKETS, SKI PANTS/ LINED PANTS, HATS, MULTIPLE PAIRS OF MITTS, AND NECK WARMERS. \*LABEL ALL ITEMS\*





Matane-1 Year **Hina-** 1 Year Mehakdeep- 1 Year Francine - 34 Years

Rajinder- 1 Year Andrew - 9 Years

### **MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD**

### A Year of Transition and Growth

Reflecting on the past fiscal year, the board is proud to share the progress we've achieved together. Building on the strong foundation laid by previous leadership, we advanced our commitment to inclusivity through policies such as the updated Accessible Customer Policy while sustaining stable enrollment and driving a successful expansion.

### **Key Highlights**

- · Prairie Roots Opens! Our newest location at Sir William Osler is now fully operational, adding vibrancy to our community.
- Financial Strength: Thanks to careful planning, we're closing the year with a draft surplus of over \$60,000.
- Expanded Access: The province's \$10-a-day childcare model now includes school-age care on holidays—a win for families.

### **Board Updates**

We welcomed new members Andrea Rous (Sir William Osler) and Amanda Thorsteinsson (Sir William Osler), and appointed Ashlee Davis (Prairie Roots) as Treasurer. We are grateful to all board members for their energy and commitment.

### **Looking Ahead**

Next year, our focus will be on:

- Strengthening our governance framework by updating, modernizing, and formally reviewing our organizational bylaws and Code of Conduct policy to ensure they reflect our growth, regulatory expectations, and the needs of a rapidly expanding organization.
- Advancing our communications plan to connect better with our community members.

Thank You to our Executive Director Karen, the Administration team, educators, and families. Your dedication and trust make K.I.D.S. Inc. exceptional.

#### **AGM 2025**

We held our AGM virtually on November 24. Thank you to the parents and guardians who took the time to attend. Your time, input, and thoughtful feedback are what keep us moving forward.

# K.I.D.S. INC. MONTROSE

# **SITE MANAGER REPORT**

Wishing Shayla all the best on her maternity leave!

Wishing everyone a holiday season filled with laughter, love, and plenty of magic.

May your days be merry and bright!

Jenn Sutton, Site Manager

# **SCHOOL AGE**

### MAKING THE BEST OUT OF OUR LIMITED TIME

During regular school days, our time with the school aged children is brief, but we use every moment with intention and purpose. In this short window, the educators carefully set up and take down our rooms, prepare and offer planned experiences, and provide a delicious snack.

Beyond the visible tasks, educators focus deeply on the emotional and relational aspects of our work. We use our time to build genuine connections—greeting each child warmly, checking in about their day, and creating opportunities for meaningful interactions. As the children engage in play, we observe closely to identify their interests, strengths, and needs. These observations guide the experiences we plan and help us support each child.

Whenever possible, we engage in conversations that strengthen our relationships with the children, offering them a safe and trusted space to share their thoughts and feelings. Through these moments, we work to foster an environment of trust, security, and belonging—ensuring that even in a limited timeframe, every child feels seen, valued, and supported.

Take some time to step into our spaces and connect with the educators. You are always invited to join us - whether it's for a snack, a planned experience, or simply a conversation. We encourage you to explore our bulletin boards and divider boards, where you'll find insights into our learning focus.

As we get closer to the winter holidays, we would love to hear about your family's traditions. Sharing these helps us weave meaningful, inclusive experiences into our days and learn about the wonderful ways people celebrate this season.

Looking forward to the holiday season and to 2026!

Giovanna Rossing, School Age Program Supervisor

### **DECEMBER 2025**

# K.I.D.S. INC. MONTROSE PRESCHOOL

Throughout November, we welcomed weekly sessions with The Travelling Stage.

Every Monday morning, an artist visited our centre to lead an hour of music, movement, and storytelling (30 minutes in each preschool room). The children were highly engaged and looked forward to these sessions each week.

Educators continued to observe and extend the children's interests to enrich their learning experiences. In the Prairie Room, the children participated in a multi-step outdoor and creative project. They decorated small boxes, brought them to the nearby park to collect natural materials, and transformed their collections into unique creations.

**Prairie Room** cultural book bag also continued its journey between families. Once all families have contributed, it will be placed on our bookshelf for children to revisit and enjoy.

In the **Boreal Forest morning group**, children engaged in high-energy outdoor play, experimented with "milk magic," and explored wall-mounted tubes by testing what objects fit and which ones do not. These hands-on activities encouraged critical thinking, sensory exploration, and problem-solving, and quickly became popular across the preschool program.

For the **Boreal Forest afternoon group**, educators offered activities that supported communication, collaboration, and creativity. Children enjoyed "minute games" (quick, simple activity stations), participated in weekly Show and Tell, and took part in a Build-a-Thon using loose parts such as popsicle sticks, duct tape, and pipe cleaners. These experiences encouraged self-expression, teamwork, and imaginative thinking.

At the end of the month, we planned a special family gathering on November 28. The children baked bannock to share with their families, and educators prepared a few engaging activity stations for families to explore together. Events like these help strengthen our home–centre connection and give families the opportunity to experience a piece of their children's day.

We are looking forward to the holiday season and the joyful experiences it will bring.

Elena Kuchuk, Preschool Program Supervisor

# **LOOSE PARTS NEEDED**

To support future Build-a-Thon projects and other creative explorations, we kindly welcome donations of loose parts.

Recently, the children shared ideas for materials they would like to use, including chopsticks, bows, socks, gems, styrofoam balls, plastic cups, a variety of small boxes, and plastic bottle caps (no toilet paper rolls please).

Your contributions help enrich our learning environment and inspire imaginative play.

### **DECEMBER 2025**

# **K.I.D.S. INC. SOUTH POINTE**

# ECOLE SOUTH POINTE - NO CLASSES - CENTRE OPEN DECEMBER 5, 2025

### **SITE MANAGER**

Please welcome a new educator, Katrina, to our site. Katrina will be involved in both the preschool and school age programs at South Pointe in a part time capacity.

Throughout the month of December some of the focus at our site will build on community, gratitude, and togetherness. The children will be exploring areas of generosity, friendship, and winter traditions through play-based learning.

I want to extend my appreciation for everything families do to support our program, whether it is sending extra winter gear, filling out our break time attendance surveys (an astounding 98% winter break reply rate this year), attending program events, as well as communicating with our team in such a kind and professional manner. Your involvement makes a meaningful difference.

I hope your December is filled with peace, connection, and joy. Thank you for being part of our K.I.D.S Inc South Pointe community.

Sincerely, Francine Margolese, Site Manager

# **INFANT**

We warmly invite our Infant Families to join us for a special family event on Wednesday, December 10th, from 4:15 pm to 5:00 pm. Come enjoy some time with your little ones in their rooms as you participate in engaging activities our educators have thoughtfully designed for you to experience together.

In our infant program, music is a special part of our daily routine. Music has become a way for the children to connect, communicate, and express themselves. The children enjoy watching their peers participate and often mimic the actions, claps, or gestures that they see. This social interaction helps nurture communication skills and fosters a sense of community within our group.

We are excited to welcome a music visitor "Ukulade" to our infant program once a month for the next three months. She will be sharing music and a little magic with our children, helping to nurture and support their growing love for music. Wishing you all a joyful start to the winter season!

Kathia Ayala , Infant Program Supervisor

# K.I.D.S. INC. SOUTH POINTE

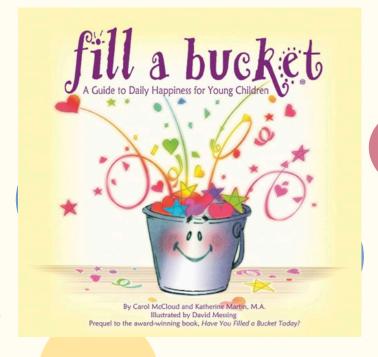
## **PRESCHOOL**

The Preschool program has been focusing on implementing a prosocial curriculum over the last few weeks. Each room is doing something different to encourage the children's prosocial behaviours. Prosocial behaviour is defined as behaviour through which people benefit others (kindness, compassion, helping, sharing, honesty etc.).

We encourage these behaviours by incorporating opportunities for the children to display these behaviours daily. During free play, planned experiences, spontaneous experiences, and gathering times children demonstrate these behaviours through interactions with their peers and Educators.

The Preschool Educators are using Happy Grams, Kindness Jars, Buckets, and verbal conversations to praise children when they observe a prosocial behaviour. Having a visual in the room is a great reminder for the children and a way for them to feel proud of all the wonderful things they are doing for each other!

Laura Alkana, Preschool Program Supervisor





# K.I.D.S. INC. SOUTH POINTE

# **SCHOOL AGE**

### Family Event – Thank You!

A huge THANK YOU to all the families who joined us for our recent event!

The room was filled with teamwork, kindness, and lots of happy chatter as children worked alongside their families. Your presence made the day feel extra special, and the children were so proud to show what they could do. Together we built community, practiced social skills, and showed the children the impact of small acts of kindness. We appreciate you all!

### **Cottonwood Clubs**

### **Knitting & Crochet Club with Simmi**

This club was an absolute hit!

Simmi created a calm, cozy atmosphere where needles clicked, yarn tangled (sometimes!), and creativity flourished. Children learned knitting, crocheting, or both—and they made it look easy! Simmi guided them with so much patience, staying close by to help whenever someone dropped a stitch or needed a refresher. The children were so proud of their creations, and we loved seeing their confidence grow stitch by stitch.

### Science Club with Sana – Cabbage Chemistry!

Things got colourful (and a little messy!) in science club this month.

Sana introduced the children to a pH balance experiment using our magical purple potion—also known as a red cabbage indicator. After boiling red cabbage, we poured the bright purple liquid into cups and tested different household items.

The results? Pinks, blues, greens, and everything in between! The children loved predicting whether something was acidic or basic, and the dramatic colour changes led to a lot of "WOAHH—look at THIS!" moments. Science has never looked this bright!

### **Poplar Clubs**

### Drama Club with Paulina – Lights, Camera, Action!

Paulina brought a burst of creativity and laughter to Poplar with her drama club.

The children made paper-bag props, popsicle-stick puppets, and acted out mini skits. And yes—karaoke made an appearance, complete with enthusiastic cheering! Paulina's warm, encouraging approach helped even the quiet children step into the spotlight. Their confidence and imagination soared every week.

### Creative Creations → Movement Club with Lisa

This club had a plot twist!

We started with creative projects... but with warm weather and an energetic group, the children had a better idea "Let's go OUTSIDE!" And off we went! With the help of the group, we planned outdoor games together.

Top choices included: Baseball (special thank you to Max for bringing the bat and ball!), Football — (without tackles!), Soccer and a variety of group games the children selected themselves.

The excitement grew each week, and the children begged for "just a few more minutes!" of playtime. We happily took advantage of every sunny moment. Their teamwork, planning, and enthusiasm made this club an unforgettable highlight.

Lisa Klassen, School Age Program Supervisor

# K.I.D.S. INC. SIR WILLIAM OSLER

## **SITE MANAGER**

Exciting news at Sir William Osler this month—the play structure is officially open! The long wait is finally over, and the children are beyond thrilled to explore and enjoy the new space.

To celebrate National Child Day on Thursday, November 20, the educators at Sir William Osler hosted a levely papeaks breakfast. This appaid day highlights the rights and well being of all children, and we

a lovely pancake breakfast. This special day highlights the rights and well-being of all children, and we were delighted to share it with our community.

November 20 was also Transgender Day of Remembrance. To honour this important day, a collection of stickers was available for families to take as a small gesture of recognition and support. Thank you for being a valued part of our community. We wish you a warm, healthy, and connected month ahead.

Robyn Liddle, Site Manager

# PROGRAM REPORT HOW TO BE A GOOD EDUCATOR Speak Calmly Be Kind Keep Kids Don't Yell Love More Safe Have Patience Make Teach the Give Respect Everyone Students Happy Give Hugs Make Good Greet The Land and Say 1 Snacks Love You By: The Eagles and Bisons



### **SITE MANAGER**

This month has brought rich learning, cozy routines, and many joyful moments across our programs.

The beautiful fall weather has given us extra opportunities to enjoy the outdoors—exploring seasonal changes through sensory play, nature walks, and conversations about the shifting temperatures. The children are already eagerly awaiting the arrival of snow!

Throughout November, the children have been busy participating in gooey Halloween activities, engaging in thoughtful Remembrance Day reflections, and exploring hands-on experiences that support creativity, problem-solving, and emerging social skills.

Robyn Liddle, Site Manager

### **INFANT**

The white stuff is on its way! The transition to winter is one of the most magical and noticeable changes of all the seasons. We're looking forward to watching snowflakes slowly float down through our large windows, watch the school children's joy and of course, catching a few flakes on our noses.

Our infant program has been busy with activity here at Prairie Roots. Here's a glimpse into what's been happening in each space:

**The Bluebell** children have been deeply engaged in exploring cause and effect. Their provocations support this curiosity with shredded paper, stacking and rolling sensory bottles and activities like peek-a-boo with scarves. Outdoors, the group loves visiting the park to run, "hide" and play chasing games. To extend this interest, educators will be bringing toys outside that further support their cause-and-effect learning.

In the **Bunny Tail** room, children have been captivated by construction vehicles. They've been enthusiastically matching their toy vehicles to the real machines they see through the window as construction continues just outside the centre. Sensory play remains a favourite, like the exploration of gourds that had been cut into small pieces for exploring and sticky shapes. The children also enjoy caring for baby dolls, learning empathy through pretend play.

The **Dandelion** children have been embracing big body movement! Climbing, running and jumping are all daily favourites. They've been building, "cooking" up meals in their play kitchen and exploring sound using boxes, tables, their voices and more. They're also showing great interest in the social side of learning, developing relationships, exploring shared spaces and understanding each other's personal boundaries. Thank you to all our wonderful families for your continued support and partnership.

Renee Chiwaula, Infant Program Supervisor







# **PRESCHOOL**

#### **Halloween Celebrations**

We had a wonderful and exciting Halloween Day! Our children dressed up in fun and creative costumes, then gathered in the hallways for a festive costume parade. They also danced at a Halloween dance party in their rooms and enjoyed many engaging activities.

#### **Honouring Remembrance Day**

We recognized Remembrance Day with compassion and meaningful learning opportunities. Maria, one of our educators, painted a beautiful poppy mural on our entrance window. With many veteran families in our care, we deeply appreciate their service and are grateful to have them as part of our community.

### Sunflower Classroom - Poppy Wreath

The educators created a beautiful poppy wreath made from the children's handprints.

### Crocus Classroom – Honouring Peacekeepers

The Crocus group made poppy artwork together to honour those who sacrificed their lives for our peace.

#### Prairie Lily Classroom - xpanding Our Emergent Curriculum

Our team has shown strong enthusiasm for strengthening our emergent curriculum practices. Prairie Lily has taken the lead by creating an amazing web based on the children's interests. During our staff meeting, we continued to build on this topic through discussion and hands-on teamwork.

#### **Creating Inspiring Learning Environments**

Educators have thoughtfully rearranged their room environments to spark curiosity and creativity. Through collaboration and dedication, they continue to make each space welcoming, engaging, and inspiring for the children.

### **Refreshing Our Hallway Displays**

Our hallway boards were updated with children's photos, artwork, and documented interests—giving families a meaningful glimpse into their child's day during drop-off and pick-up.

Sunflower: Features children's photos, their self-portraits, and a variety of art materials such as googly eyes and yarn.

Prairie Lily: Displays each child's photo, their name, and their interest of the month.

Crocus: Showcases photos of the children carving pumpkins.

#### **Creative Reuse of Donated Materials**

We are grateful to one of our parents for donating carpet pieces for our preschool program. Educators are repurposing these materials in creative ways—cutting them into shapes and incorporating them into each room's plans. Using recycled materials helps reduce waste and provides children with open-ended opportunities to explore and create.

#### **New Toys Enhancing Learning and Play**

We recently acquired new toys for the program, which have enriched our rooms and daily activities. The children have been using them every day since they arrived. The community helper costumes—and other dress-up items—were a big hit! Our children love dramatic play, often turning simple objects into imaginative creations. They use chairs to make jails, trains, or buses, and paintbrushes to pretend they are applying makeup. Adding props helps bring their imaginations to life. The small square magnets and the large stepping stones for gross motor play have also been wonderful additions, helping channel the children's natural need for large-muscle activity into engaging and organized experiences.

#### **Upcoming In-Service Day**

We have an in-service day coming up, during which our nursery children will be spending the day with us at Prairie Roots. We're excited to welcome a special visitor from the Manitoba Theatre for Young People! They will be leading a fun and engaging drama workshop for our preschool children. This workshop will offer a wonderful introduction to the world of drama—encouraging creativity as children embody characters, explore emotions, and dive into storytelling. Through imaginative games and activities, children will move their bodies, use their imaginations, and enjoy the magic of pretend play.