



HALTON HILLS CHILD CARE CENTRE

WELCOME TO A NEW SCHOOL YEAR

FALL NEWSLETTER 2018

I would like to start off with saying thank you to our Halton Hills Child Care Centre family. Everyone (children, parents and staff) have all been a great resource in order to support our learning and growth as a community. I enjoy getting to know all of our new members and building relationships with all of our families.

Our staff are always here to help. If you have any concerns, suggestions or a neat idea for us, please feel free to share. Sometimes it may be difficult to connect with parents at the beginning or the end of the day as we are busy taking care of the children, so always feel free to send us a message on HiMama or email Conny at director@hhchildcare.ca.

We are all starting to get settled in our routines, the children going to school are more comfortable with the transportation and building great relationships with our drivers. The children who have either recently started or changed classrooms are also settling in nicely and being supported by the other children and our wonderful staff.

OUTSIDE TIME & WEATHER

With the weather starting to change I wanted to remind all parents that the Early Years Child Care Act requires all licensed child care centres go outside for at least 2 hours every day, weather permitting.

Weather permitting is defined by the Halton Region Health Department as:

- > Temperature of -15°C without wind chill
- > Environment Canada has issued an extreme cold warning for outdoor activity (when the temp or wind chill is expected to reach -30°C for at least 2 hours)
- > Extreme conditions, such as blizzard or ice storm

When the children go outside, teachers continuously monitor the children for signs of being cold. The children will return to the centre early if need be. Please ensure that your child has weather appropriate outdoor gear, including a warm coat, splash pants, hats, light mittens and possibly rain boots. We also request that all children have indoor shoes that remain at the Centre. It is an awful feeling to get here and realize that you do not have any shoes for your child.

Forgot your child's gloves or need a new pair speak to your child's teacher about purchasing a pair from our on-site stock for \$5.00.

AGM

Annual General Meeting

Did you know that Halton Hills Child Care Centre is a Not for Profit Organization and all families enrolled in the Centre are automatically members of the organization!

A key legal requirement for our organization is the AGM, where all members (all families in the Centre) are highly encouraged to attend, as the AGM provides updates on the operation of the Centre, our current financial status and plans for 2019.

We will be having our Annual General Meeting (AGM) on Wednesday November 7, 2018 at 6:30pm. Free child care will be provided during the meeting and everyone will be served dinner at 6:00pm. This meeting is a perfect opportunity to interact and meet other parents, teachers, and not have to make dinner. During the meeting we will talk about the Child Care and Early Years Act and how it supports our Emergent Curriculum, HiMama, our fundraising successes and what it means to your child care program and give a financial update.

We also elect new board members to join our Board of Directors. If you are interested in supporting our community and joining our Board of Directors, please read the attached "Board of Directors Primer". This will give you more information on the expectations and responsibilities of our Board members.

This year our fantastic Board of Directors have been really busy in building and updating our Governance processes. We have updated our By-Laws and they are to be approved by our membership at the AGM. You will find attached to this newsletter a copy of our proposed By-Laws.

If you are interested in, or have questions about joining our Board of Directors, please do not hesitate to speak with Conny. Or our current Chair, William McCombe at chair@hhchildcare.com

Following the meeting there will be a raffle for one free week of child care.

ILLNESS

In an effort to help all the children get into a healthy routine I invite all parents to use the hand sanitizers located at the entrances and to have their children wash hands with soap when entering the classroom in the morning.

While we know it is stressful and frustrating to receive that dreaded call during the day, you will be notified to pick up your child when signs of illness are present. It is our duty to ensure a healthy environment for all children in our care. For more information, please refer to our Illness Policy. When the number of illnesses increases, the Centre is required by law to report this to the Health Department as they determine our next step. This may include your child being symptom free for 48 hours (versus 24 hours) before returning, increasing our bleach solutions, restricting toys or certain activities. If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to speak with Conny at any time. If you would like to speak with someone at the Health Department you can call 905-825-6000 ext. 7513.

Please note, it is extremely important that all parents inform us when their child is absent from the Centre, especially if they are showing signs of being ill. If your child is away and we haven't heard from you, expect a call finding out why your child is away.

PARKING

Reminder

The Centre has 8 parking spaces in front of the 2 buildings, please use these spaces only. We have had instances where parents are parked in a tenant space when the tenant arrives. This can be very frustrating; equivalent to you coming home and finding a car in your driveway that is not supposed to be there.

