

# MMH Kindergarten Newsletter November 2018

## Remembrance Day

MMH will be hosting a Remembrance Day ceremony on Friday November 9th at 10:30am. Although we don't have kindergarten that day, families are welcome to join for this assembly. While we do not dwell on Remembrance Day too heavily in Kindergarten, I encourage parents to discuss the meaning and significance of the day at home.



## Under the Sea!

Kindergarten is diving down under the sea for the month of November! We will be investigating different animals and their habitats, creating crafts, and reading books all related to this theme. If you have something from the sea that you would like to share with our class, we would love to use it in our 'Under the Sea' museum. Also, if you can, make a trip to the West Side Library to enjoy some under the sea books with your child.



## Early Years Evaluations and Parent Teacher Conferences

This term, Lethbridge School District has decided to implement the Early Years Evaluation in all kindergarten classrooms. This assessment and report will replace the traditional report card. The Early Years Evaluation provides us with age appropriate developmental information and will indicate specific areas that your child may need more targeted supports. Please sign up for a parent teacher interview on either Wednesday November 21st or Thursday November 22nd in order to discuss your child's developmental progress with me in detail.

Booking conference times will take place **online**. A note from the office will be sent home to explain the process. (It's relatively painless!) If you don't have a computer available to you, just talk to me in person and I can book a time for you.

### Important Dates to

#### Remember

Nov 1—Skating

Nov 8—Skating

Nov 9 — Remembrance Day Assembly 10:30am

Nov 12 & 13 — No School

Nov 21 & 22—Parent/Teacher Interviews No school for Kindergarten

Nov 29 — Skating

### MMH KINDER

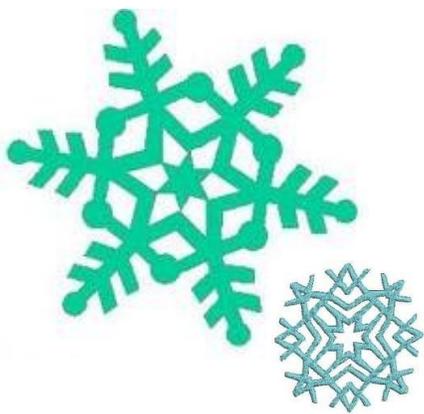
#### WEBSITE!

Be sure to check out our kindergarten website at

<https://mmhkindergarten.weebly.com/>

This is where we will be posting the newsletter & calendar. As always, feel free to email me or text using the remind APP with any questions or concerns!





## Brrrrrr! It's getting cold out here!

Just a note about warm clothing. Since we go outside for recess everyday, the exception being really stormy weather, kids need to be bringing warm clothing to school. Toques, scarves, and mittens should be staples in a child's backpack since we all know how quickly weather can change! It doesn't hurt to throw in an extra sweater on a particularly chilly day. Please keep helping your child learn to be independent during dressing/undressing—this makes recess a whole lot easier and means less time in the classroom and more time outside playing!

## **It's Time!**

It's time to start saying goodbye to your child at the classroom door! We are working really hard on being independent with the simple everyday tasks. Hanging up backpacks & jackets and taking out snacks is a big 1st step!

### *Just a Reminder....*

Start and End times for classes:

**Morning:** class starts at **8:14am;** ends at **11:29am**

**Afternoon:** class starts at **12:10pm;** ends at **3:22pm**

Our doors open at 8:15 & 12:10 so there is no need to arrive earlier than that! Thank you for being on time to pick up everyday!

### **Skating Days:**

We will soon to find out that having youngsters learning to skate is especially tough on our backs! A very limited number of pylons and skating frames are available. If your child needs some extra support on the ice consider bringing something to our skating days. Our kindergarten skating days are November 1st, 8th, 29th and Dec 6th.



## Things to Work on at Home This Month

Sounds and Letters! The letters and their sounds are something we emphasize in Kindergarten. These building blocks of language are so important for our young students to learn. It is a very cool thing when they all click together and ta-da, start reading their first words!

Students are all at very different points in their learning. For students that know their sounds and letters, give them fun opportunities at home to show you what they know. Writing cards, notes, drawing pictures and including words are all fun language building activities.

For students who are still unsure of which letters are which, or don't know their sounds, please help us by practicing with their Jolly Phonics sound cards at home. At home practice allows children to gain confidence in what they know so they feel more able to share in a group learning environment. Be sensitive that kids learn at different rates, but celebrating success with language is such a motivator to keep learning more.



## Special Helper Days:

Thank you for all the healthy snacks that you send to school everyday! Please keep in mind if you do need to change a special helper day it is up to you to make the arrangements. If you know in advance what day would work well for you, please let me know prior to the 15th of every month. Thanks!

I can't stress enough how helpful it is to know in advance if you are unable to stay for your child's special day. We understand that it can be difficult to stay with many people juggling work schedules and younger children still at home. If you are able to only come for part of the day, centre time is it! Ask me about the specific times for when it would be the most helpful for you to be a volunteer in our classroom.

### A Huge THANK YOU

A big thanks to all the parent volunteers in October! It was a very busy month continuing to learn the rules and routines along with pumpkin and Halloween activities! We really appreciate the time you put in. Also a big thank you to everyone who donated things to our classroom: Halloween treats, pumpkins, etc.

Fundraisers have also been in full swing this month. Thanks to those who participated. On another note, please know I do not **expect** families to participate in these types of things. Often, people do seem bombarded with all the different groups wanting financial support. Every family has to make decisions that are the best for them.



### Questions/Concerns:

If you have questions about anything in the newsletter and need more information, please don't hesitate to email me, text me using the remind APP, or talk to me at arrival or pick-up time. If ever you have a concern that you would like to discuss, please let me know and we can set up a time.

### Snuggle up with a great book!

Experts agree, reading with your child is one of the best things you can do at home. Not only is it a valuable bonding experience, but it promotes language development! And who doesn't love a great story? If English is not your child's first language, **DO** make sure you're reading and speaking in their first language. Research is clear, developing a love and knowledge of one's first language benefits the second!

### Flu and Cold Season

It's back... Sneezes and coughs have been dominant sounds in the hallway lately. We talk about washing our hands and covering our mouths at school as ways to stop the spread of infection, but one really great thing parents can do is to not send a sick child to school. It passes on illness, but also, a child who is not feeling well typically has a miserable day trying to concentrate on school activities. Thanks for your help with this!

