



Our Place

Family Resource and Early Years Centre



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www.ourplacekw.ca

January Calendar: <http://www.ourplacekw.ca/schedules/January%202014.pdf>

NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2014

EVENTS

- Winter Program Registration will begin on **Monday January 6th from 6:00-7:30 p.m. IN PERSON ONLY.**

Register for: **Baby Basics, DIY Sensory for Parents**, Fit Kids, Infant Massage, Learning Begins**, Newcomer Parent Support, Parenting in a New Society, Positive Discipline and United in Parenting.**

After the evening registration – registration for programs will continue Tuesday January 7th after 1:30 p.m., by phone or in person. **For programs requiring payment (i.e. Learning Begins) registration continues at 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday.

- **Literacy starts in Families first!** Join us and other Family Literacy agencies at *Conestoga Mall Sunday January 26th from 11:00 am to 4:30 p.m.* for the annual Family Literacy Day celebration. There will be entertainment, crafts, activities and lots of free stuff available all day long. Bring the whole family for an afternoon of literacy fun, games and reading!

NEW PROGRAMS

- **DIY Sensory for Parents:** Come out for our 3 part workshop where we offer TONS of inexpensive sensory ideas and activities you can make and do at home for children birth to 6 yrs. You will also explore how sensory play connects to science, literacy, math, communication, motor skills and parent-child bonding. This program also includes a make-and-take and lots of resources that you can take home.
Date: Thursday mornings at 9:30 a.m. Pre-registration required for whole 3 week program. Children's programs are available. There is a cost of \$10.00 for the 3 week session.
- **Artistic Infants:** It's never too early to support your child's self-expression! This program will allow families with babies under 12 months to explore different baby-safe art materials, and take home the end result. Each session will end with a short circle of songs

and rhymes. Be sure to bring extra clothes as this creative process will get MESSY! Time: Wednesday afternoon at 1:00 p.m. or 2:00 p.m. Drop-in program but come early as it will fill up fast!

- **Parenting Your Baby:** Share with other parents as you explore your new role. Discuss parenting styles and skills that will build a strong relationship with your child. This 6 week workshop is for parents of children birth to 2 years. Babes in arms are welcome to attend with you. Time: Fridays 9:30-11:30 a.m. beginning January 31st. **Register with KW Counselling at 519-884-0000. Fee is based on income.**
- **Positive Discipline in Everyday Parenting:** Positive discipline is an approach to parenting that teaches children and guides their behaviour, while respecting their rights to healthy development, protection from violence and participation in their learning. Positive discipline is based in research on children's healthy development and effective parenting and founded on child's rights. This 8 week parenting program will also have a school readiness program for your child while you attend the group. Time: Thursdays 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. beginning January 16th. You must pre-register to attend.
- **United in Parenting:** This workshop will focus on a united parenting approach. Topics may include; from couples to parents, effective communication, conflict resolution strategies, raising children with values and fostering self-esteem in your children. This 5 week program for parents will also have a school readiness program for your child to participate in while you attend the group. Time: Wednesday evenings 6:15-8:00 p.m. beginning January 15th. You must pre-register to attend.
- **Watch-a-Book:** Children ages 2-6 and their parents/caregivers will share in a fun, interactive program that encourages emergent literacy skills! Together the group will read a story, watch a video about that story and then make a craft related to the story. This program is available by drop in or pre-registered on Saturday mornings. Time: 10:00 – 10:45 a.m. *Younger siblings from birth to 2 are welcome to attend.*
- **Drop-In Sensory Play:** Spend time with your child in a calming environment designed for sensory stimulation of all types. This ASD-friendly program open to all children birth-6 years and their parents, caregivers and therapists. Times: Tuesday mornings 9:30 -11:00 a.m. and Wednesday evenings 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.

For more information and more specific program details – please check out our calendar on-line on our website at www.ourplacekw.ca

INFO

- Our Place will be **closed** from Thursday December 19th at noon until Saturday January 4th. We will re-open on Monday January 6th at 9:00 a.m. for regular morning programs. The Staff at Our Place wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!
- The Centre will be closed on January 6th at noon for a staff meeting. We will re-open on Tuesday morning at 9:00 a.m. for regular programs.

- Parent Council Meeting: Monday Jan 27st @ 9:30 a.m. To register please send an email to parentcouncil@ourplacekw.ca You will receive a confirmation email back to confirm your registration. If you don't get one – please call the front reception desk @ 519-571-1626.
- During the winter months, for any unexpected closures and cancellations due to weather, please call us at [519-571-1626 ext. 29](tel:519-571-1626). A message will be recorded that lists any of the cancellations.
- Remember to bring indoor shoes for kids and adults! You and your children must have dry footwear at all times. Coats and wet footwear should be left on the racks or mats provided.
- Please leave your strollers on the mats in the stroller parking area whenever you visit Our Place. This keeps our hallways free and clear and also keeps the wet puddles in one end of the building near the entrance. Thanks for everyone's cooperation.
- If you or your children are ill, we ask you do not attend programs. If you are registered in a program, we ask you call the centre and let us know you will not be attending that day.
- As a reminder – No drinks, including coffee, are permitted in any of the children's classrooms or in the gym. Thank you for your cooperation.
- Programming can be held out in the Outdoor Learning Area at any point during the School Readiness programs. We ask that you dress your child for the weather outside.
- Like us on **Facebook**! Our Place has a Facebook page that will provide up to date information about current programs and events. www.facebook.com/Ourplacekw. We also have Twitter! Please follow us for updates [@ourplacekw](https://twitter.com/ourplacekw) Check it out today!

DONATIONS AND FUNDRAISING

- **Fundraising:** The Christmas Bazaar on November 9th was a great success, with over \$1,249.00 raised. A huge thank you goes out to the great volunteers and staff who helped put on this event. It couldn't happen without their support. Please watch for upcoming fundraising events.
- **Shopping cards:** We have shopping cards available for you to purchase which raises money for the centre. (ie. Zehrs, Shoppers Drug Mart, Sobeys, Canadian Tire or many others by ordering) Form more information or to order cards - please email Cindy at ckratky@ourplacekw.ca . It is so easy to use – if you buy a gift card for \$ 100 –we get a percentage from the retailer from that purchase. It cost you nothing!
- **Donation Cards:** Would you like to make a donation on behalf of someone – please use our Donation Cards. You can make the donation and then give the card as a gift to a special person. This is great idea for teacher gifts, those hard-to-buy for people, or just to mark a special day! Please ask at the front desk for more information. Tax Receipts are available for all large donations.

- **Playdough:** You can get your supply of homemade playdough from Our Place. It is *The Amazing Playdough from Our Place* and is available in a variety of colours. The cost is \$2.50 per package. It is non-toxic and safe for all ages. Ingredients: Flour, Salt, Alum, vegetable oil and food coloring. Just ask us at the front desk if you wish to purchase some. You can place orders if we have none in stock – and if you wish to purchase on an on-going basis ... we can do an annual receipt for tax purposes. Please just ask at the front desk for more information.
- **Donations:** The classrooms are always looking for donations of the following items to lessen their financial burden. Anything off the lists below is always appreciated. Any donations should be clearly marked and left with the staff at the front desk.
 - ★ Blue room: Match box cars, Kleenex, Unscented Wipes, Art supplies (beads, sequins, jewels)
 - ★ Yellow Room: Kleenex, Cheerios (Plain), Raisins, Unscented Wipes, Bubbles, and Stickers
 - ★ Purple Room: Kleenex, diapers(size 3-5), Cheerios(plain), Unscented Wipes, Raisins, and Bubbles.
 - ★ Infant Room: Unscented Wipes, Paper towel, Diapers (size 1-3), Receiving blankets, Bibs, and Baby Mum Mum Biscuits

SAVE THE DATE

- Upcoming fundraising events: Valentine's Day Bake Sale, Scrapbooking Day
- March break Camp for kids! Watch for more details!

FEEDBACK

- We always welcome feedback from participants on programs, needs or any aspect of your experience at Our Place. Please feel free to share feedback with any staff member or email to dsnyder@ourplacekw.ca Remember Our Place is your place!

This will be a monthly email with quick information. If you wish to NOT receive this newsletter, please send an email to wkampijan@ourplacekw.ca to unsubscribe. And if you want more information about any topic, please contact the Centre or visit our website. Please remember to mark this email address as “not spam” to keep getting the newsletter.