



Our Place

Family Resource and Early Years Centre



154 Gatewood Rd – Kitchener, ON

Phone: (519) 571-1626

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Email: ourplace@ourplacekw.ca

www.ourplacekw.ca

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

NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2014

EVENTS

- Our Place is on Facebook!!! Like us on **Facebook!** Our Facebook page will provide you with up to date information about current programs and events. www.facebook.com/Ourplacekw. Check it out and Follow us!!! Follow us on Twitter too.....@ourplacekw
- **Program Registration for April Programs:** IN PERSON ONLY Monday March 24th from 6:00-7:30 p.m. Registration will continue Tuesday March 25th at 10:30 a.m. IN PERSON for programs requiring payment and 1:30 p.m. BY PHONE for programs not requiring payment.
- **SAVE THE DATE: Crop for Kids Scrapbooking Day** will be held on Saturday April 5th from 9:00 a.m. – 4 p.m. There are still spots available for this event. For \$25 you will get your own table space to work on your crafts. Hot & cold drinks and potluck lunch/snacks are provided. This event is open to beginner scrapbookers too. Proceeds from this event will support Our Place.

Sign up at the front office. Payment is due at the time of sign-up.

For more information call 519-571-1626.

Saturday, April 5th from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Our Place in the gym.

NEW PROGRAMS

- Upcoming April & May programs to watch out for on the calendar: **Baby Basics, Colour it Up!, DIY Sensory for Parents, Kids Have Stress Too, Learnings Begins, Make the Connection, Positive Discipline, United in Parenting, Fathering Involvement** and many more!!! The April Calendar will be available around the middle of March! Registration is on March 24th from 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.

- **Stork Secrets:** Pregnant mothers and mothers of babies under two years have an opportunity to talk with peers about their experiences with the challenges and changes during pregnancy and the post partum period. This group provides a safe and supportive place where moms can discuss their feelings of anxiety, depression and feeling overwhelmed. Information on coping strategies, self-care and health issues will be provided. School Readiness programs available during the group for children birth to 6 years. This group is on-going, participants can join in at any point during the session. Interested participants MUST register with Jennifer Jordan at 519-571-1626 ext. 22. Dates: Mondays from 9:30 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. and no program March 10th.

INFO

- The centre will be closed for Staff Training in the afternoon only on **Friday March 7th**. The centre will close at Noon on this day. We will re-open on Saturday at 9:30 a.m.
- Hours of operation for the March Break Week for regular programs:
 - Monday March 10th - Thursday March 13th **OPEN** 9:00 – 3:00 p.m. daily
 - Wednesday March 12th **CLOSED IN EVENING**
 - Friday March 14th & Saturday March 15th **CLOSED**
- Easter Weekend Closures:
 - We will be **CLOSED** on Friday April 18th for Good Friday, Saturday April 19th, and Monday April 21st for Easter Monday.
- Parent Council Meeting for March is on Monday March 24th from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m. To register please send an email to parentcouncil@ourplacekw.ca
- 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.
- During the winter months, for any unexpected closures and cancellations due to weather, please call us at [519-571-1626](tel:519-571-1626) ext. ***29**. A message will be recorded that lists any of the cancellations.
- **Parking Info:** Please be aware that our parking lot is frequently very busy and full on most days. We have drop off spots available – that are available for you to use as a drop off/or pick up area. Please do not use this for long term parking. You should also be prepared to park on the nearby streets (Blueridge & Gatewood) and walk to the centre with your children. We also ask that you please take your time driving through the parking lot and be mindful of our small visitors! Sincere there is a security company enforcing the parking rules ... Please make sure that you park in a parking spot – not at the end of an aisle or create your own; You are not blocking or parked in a posted fire route; You are not parking in front of the garage bin; You are not blocking walkways or gates; and if you use the Handicap spaces, have your permit clearly displayed. We appreciate your cooperation.

- **School Readiness Programs & Outdoor Playtime:** During the winter months the school readiness programs will be using the Outdoor Learning Area if weather permits. Please ensure that your child comes dressed for the winter weather, with a winter coat, snow pants, mittens, hat, scarf and boots. On the days that your child's classroom goes outside, please drop off your child's indoor shoes on the carpet outside their room. If your child does not come prepared to play outside, you will have to supervise them in the gym until their classroom comes into the centre from the Outdoor Learning Area.
- Remember to bring indoor shoes for kids and adults! You and your children must have dry, indoor footwear **at all times**. Coats and wet footwear should be left on the racks 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.
- We lock the front doors daily from 3:30-4:00 p.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. The office will remain open during this time but anyone arriving at the centre must ring the bell to gain entry. *We thank everyone in advance for their cooperation.*
- **Child Health Fair:**
Date: Friday March 21, 2014
Time: 9:00 – 1:00 p.m.
Location: Waterloo YMCA Ontario Early Years Centre; 161 Roger Street, Waterloo

A Child Health Fair is a free community-based event that supports the growth and development of children in the early years (birth to six years old). Children attend with their parent or caregiver (with the parent's consent) to meet with an early child development professional to check their child's developmental progress (e.g., learning, social, emotional, language, and muscle development); Vision, dental care, nutrition, hearing and speech skills can also be checked; Families with concerns about their children can be directed to the appropriate services for further assessment or assistance. Often, the person is present at the Fair and families can speak to someone immediately; See information displays and talk with staff about children's health and community services for families; Light snacks and a play area are available.

For more information or to register call 519-741-8585. Interpreters will be provided - ask when making an appointment. Walk-ins will be accepted if there is space.

Link: <http://chd.region.waterloo.on.ca/en/clinicsClassesFairs/childhealthfairs.asp>

DONATIONS AND FUNDRAISING

- Buy a snowflake to support Our Place! Look for our snowflake snow storm in the entryway of Our Place. Buy a snowflake, put your child's name or family name on it, and it

will be proudly displayed on our walls. The cost is \$2 each and 100% of the profits go to Our Place. Please enquire at the front desk.

- **Our Place Snack Basket:** In the Resource Library we have a variety of homemade or purchased goodies that we encourage you to enjoy for a small cost. The items are donated to the centre and all money raised goes directly back in our fundraising \$\$ for Our Place activities. We are looking for bakers to make items for the basket i.e. cookies, muffins, cupcakes, granola bars or any other donated items i.e. juice boxes, fruit cups, etc. All snacks must be nut free and clearly labeled. If you would like to get more information – please email us at parentcouncil@ourplacekw.ca or you can sign up on the sheet provided in the basket. Thank you for your support either as a consumer or as a donor!
- **Crop for Kids Scrapbooking Day** will be held on Saturday April 5th from 9:00 a.m. – 4 p.m. There are still spots available for this event. For \$25 you will get your own table space to work on your crafts. Hot & cold drinks and potluck lunch/snacks are provided. This event is open to beginner scrapbookers too. Proceeds from this event will support Our Place.

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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!

NEXT MONTH

- **National Volunteer Appreciation Week:** April 6-12, 2014

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.