

EDELWEISS PREPARATORY SCHOOL

SEPTEMBER 2009 NEWSLETTER



Welcome to Edelweiss!

We have had a busy summer and the school has received many upgrades! The classrooms were painted and reorganized and we have added lots of new resources and materials.

We hope you like the "new look" of our Apple Room and Planet Room.

OPEN HOUSES: At the Open House (dates in previous newsletter) you and your child will meet their teacher(s) and classmates and be given a brief orientation about what we will be doing during class times. Children should be in uniform for the Open House and all classes unless otherwise specified. You will be able to pick-up your child's T-Shirt tote bag, snack box, and drink containers. If you are unable to come to the Open House, you can get these things when you return to school for classes. You will also need to check on your original registration form and update any information that may have changed. We will also have a class list posted on the bulletin board. We ask that you check your information to make sure it is correct and up to date. We will then update the lists and give them to each parent for their child's class.

FIRST DAY OF CLASSES: To help children transition into the new school year, we are having the first class for a shorter time frame than a full class. Please do not send a snack for this first class as we will not be having snack time during this shortened class. We ask that parents watch from the windows to make sure their child is "settled in" before leaving the building. If your child becomes upset in your absence, we want to be able to come outside the classroom and have your child get a reassuring hug from you. Parents are not to come into the class on this first day. Please says your goodbyes and hugs before the teachers

come to the coatroom to get the children. Class times are in previous newsletter. Regular class times resume after these classes.

DISMISSAL & PICK-UP: For dismissal, parents are to come to the classroom that the class ends in and pick up their child. We do not leave the classroom with the children at the end of class time. We ask you to be prompt on pick-up times as late fees are charged after a 5 minute grace period. The late fee is \$20. It is deducted with your monthly tuition and is then paid in full to the teacher(s) who stayed with the child after class time to compensate them for their time.

Prompt pick-up will be in the classroom your child ends in as follows:

"Apple Room" - the room with the Loft in it: 9:00 Preschool, 1:00 Preschool, AM & PM K on M/W/F,

"Planet Room" - the room with the planets hanging from the ceiling: 9:00 JrK, 12:50 3 Day JrK, AM & PM K on Tues/Thurs,

"The Gym" - upstairs 8:50 Preschool, 2 Day JK PM, 8:50 JK, 12:35 Spanish JrK.

SICKNESS POLICY: Children are not permitted to attend school with bad colds. If a child has a fever, has been vomiting, has excessive coughing, or green nasal discharge within the last 24 hours, we will ask that you keep your child at home. If a child exhibits any of these symptoms at school, we will call you to come and pick up your child. If your child is diagnosed with a contagious illness/communicable disease you will require a doctor's note specifying the date your child can return to school prior to returning to school. If your child is going to be absent, please leave a message at the school stating the illness your child has for your child's teachers to know. Please remember to specify which class time your child attends.

SCHOOL CLEANLINESS: In recognition of the need to provide a healthy learning environment at Edelweiss, two "state-of-the-art" air purification systems were installed during the past school year. We are very pleased with the results! The units are the only F.D.A. recognized Class II Medical Device air purifiers on the market today. They constantly purify the air, going beyond HEPA standards (.3 microns) to capture 99.97% of airborne particles .1 microns and larger! We are

proud to say that the issue of air quality in our facility was addressed well in advance of educator and parental concerns. Our school is professionally cleaned every night and we make every effort to keep the school sanitary and encourage proper hygiene with all our students. We have installed hand sanitizers within the school and encourage parents to use them and to teach their children to use them when coming and going from school. We will be sending you our H1N1 policy under separate cover.

PARENT VOLUNTEERS

We thank the following parents for coming forward to volunteer for the school and hope that the vacant spots can be filled soon. Please contact us if you can help.

RECYCLING:

Monday	Nathalie Ruault
Tuesday	vacant
Wednesday	Jayne Middleton
Thursday	vacant
Friday	Tyla Arnason

ROOM PARENTS:

Kindergarten AM:	Diane Rogers & Melanie Wong
Kindergarten PM:	Cyne Illing
8:50 Pre	vacant
9:00 Pre	Kathy Freeman
1:00 Pre	Dawn MacDonald
8:50 JrK	Jani Long & Ellen Vasic
9:00 JrK	Alexa Leighton
12:50 3 Day JrK	Kim Yuzik & Sally Heinikainen
Spanish JrK	Angelica Serrano & Erin Livingston
2 Day JrK	vacant

ALLERGY ALERT!! We want all parents to be aware that there are children in our school with a severe life threatening food allergy (anaphylaxis) to peanuts, nuts dairy, eggs and shellfish. This is a medical condition that causes a severe reaction to specific foods and can result in death within minutes. Although this may or may not affect your child's class directly, we want to inform you so that you choose to send

foods to school with your child that are free from peanut products, nuts, dairy, eggs, and shellfish. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation. If your child has an EPIPEN, you will need to come to the office and see Margaret to fill out special forms and leave us an EPIPEN at the school. We also have special allergy alert stickers to give you for your child's container.

VIRTUE OF THE MONTH: September - Sharing. Every month we will learn about a virtue interactively throughout our program with one another.

COLOUR OF THE MONTH: September is Yellow. Each month we celebrate a colour and your child can wear their regular clothing in that colour (no uniforms required) on "Yellow Day". These special dates are marked on your child's monthly calendar from their teachers.

SCHOOL TUITION FEES: Tuition fees are deducted from your bank account on the first banking day of the month. There is an NSF charge of \$25 for returned fees from the bank. No accounts are permitted to be overdue for more than 30 days. Please check your first withdrawal to ensure it is set up correctly for the year.

WASHROOM USE: We ask that parents wishing to use the washrooms at school use the upstairs ones as the downstairs ones are to be kept available for children only. Please take your child to the washroom prior to drop off for class each day. We also want to remind you that all children need to be able to toilet independently and that staff do not wipe children at all. We will help children with doing up clothing that they struggle with but they need to be able to use the toilet by themselves.

NON MARKING SHOES: The floors have just been professionally stripped and waxed. We ask that all children wear shoes with non-marking soles to protect the floors.

HELPING CHILDREN TRANSITION: Please stay at school to make sure your child is "settled in" before you leave the building. If your child needs to bring a favourite stuffed animal or piece of a blanket, etc. for security please feel free. You could also leave it in their cubbie so it is accessible in case they need it or bring it into class if he/she is really

uncertain about leaving you. If you leave it in a cubbie, please label it and let your child's teacher know it is there if they need it. We want to help their transition as much as possible.

TOILETTING: Please take your child to the bathroom at school each day prior to class to orient them and make sure they have gone before class starts. This is really important as it is difficult to start a class when children have to go to the bathroom within minutes of arriving and a teacher has to leave the room to go with them.

UNIFORMS: Uniforms (from Wear It) are required at all times unless otherwise specified on your child's calendar (eg. Colour days) The cubbies in the coatroom are shared with other students at different times. You can leave a pair of shoes in the shoe box area under if you want to but we do not require indoor shoes, just non-marking shoes and of course indoor shoes when the weather is wet. Make sure you mark your child's name clearly on clothing and shoes. Edelweiss is not responsible for lost or stolen items.

MAILBOXES, TOTE BAGS & SNACK CONTAINERS: Your child also has a mailbox near the door to the coatroom and you can take whatever is in there each day (usually there is something that the children made) Their mailbox is the one UNDER their name tag. The tote bags we give you on Open House day are for taking home things from the mailboxes. They were not intended to put the lunch kits in. The lunch kits go directly into the snack carts with the drink boxes inside. Please make sure all containers are labeled with your child's first name on it including their drink containers and other plastic containers you may use. As snack time is a short time, please just send in one item (nut free) that your child can eat in that time and try to keep it from being a messy one that will require your child to wash after eating. There are 20 children in a class in Jr K and 18 in a class of Preschool. When it is a child's birthday, we ask that you send in treats such as cookies, rice krispie squares (no baking or cakes or cupcakes please) for your child to share with the class. Also please remember not to send foods with nuts.

EXTRA CLOTHES: We do not require you to send along extra clothes as we have extra uniform pieces if we need them. We ask that if your

child comes home in any of our clothes, that you wash them and return to the school so we have them available for other children who may need them.

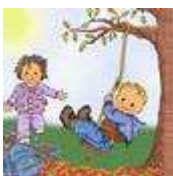
CLASS LISTS: Class Lists will be issued soon. There is still some switching around happening so we will wait until classes are settled in and then we will send them. Class lists show the child's name, parents name and home phone number and address if they have given permission to do so. They are only distributed to your child's class.

FUNDRAISER: We have an ongoing fundraiser with Mom & Baby Works. You will have received a card in your child's mailbox about it. The website is www.momandbabyworks.com and parents can simply create an online account with the website and shop around for the items they want, adding the items to their shopping cart. On the Checkout page there is a field for a Promo Code, where they should enter the code below (MBW-EDLW) and continue with payment. Edelweiss will receive a portion back from Mom and Baby Works. We will also be sending home a magazine campaign fundraiser brochure later in Sept if you wish to order any subscriptions. Please feel free to take these campaigns to your neighbours or workplace.

CONTACTING THE SCHOOL: When you call the school office at 403-282-4220 please mention the class time, the teacher's name and which program he/she attends. We have 10 different classes with approx 200 students and we hope to learn the names of parents and children alike but it does take us some time. The school website is www.epschool.ca where we have lots of information available on the website to help you. It may be helpful to bookmark this site for future reference.

We are excited to begin this new school year and hope that you and your child will enjoy the experience at Edelweiss!

Walter & Margaret Reid, Directors



What you teach your children, you also teach your children's children."