



SE Pommes de Reinettes Newsletter November - December 2018

Dear parents,

With the daylight savings, our evenings are a little longer. Please do not forget to bring your child's winter clothes, if you have not already done so, as the temperatures are getting colder.

Please consult the activity calendar sent to you last week for details on the special activities for the month of November. You can also find the activity calendar posted at the programs' entrances.

It was so fun to see your little treasures in their costumes on Halloween day. Now that Halloween is behind us, we have begun preparations for the Christmas party which will take place on December 13th at 5:00 pm. Please see below for details.

In the last few weeks, germs and flu bugs have unfortunately found their way into the daycare. I would like to remind you that it is important to keep your child home if he/she is sick. Also, if we contact you to pick up your child, it is important that you do so within the hour and remember that your child must be symptom free for 24 hours prior to returning to his/her program. We understand that it may be inconvenient to re-arrange your schedule at the last minute and miss work without notice. However, please consider that more than 60 children attend our installation and that contagion occurs quickly. It is therefore crucial to separate sick children from the healthy ones as soon as symptoms occur in order for our installation to remain healthy for all. Note that we continue to demand frequent hand washing and that disinfection of the playrooms occurs once a week.

Finally, last weekend La Société's employees had the opportunity to attend a workshop in children's identity building led by Richard Vaillancourt, a program officer for the Commission nationale des parents francophones (CNPF). The objective of the workshop was to deepen the employees' knowledge in order to support the children in their identity building. Each person possess many identities and the role of the professionals in early childhood education is to support children in their identity building. The development of a francophone identity in a minority environment is especially important for the children of La Société Pommes de Reinettes Daycare. Various ways to implement the theory were discussed and, in the next few months, we will present tools to include your participation in your child's identity building.

National Child Day

November 20th is National Child Day. Celebrating National Child Day is about "celebrating children as active participants in their own lives and in communities, as active citizens who can and should meaningfully contribute to decision-making" (ref. canada.ca).

To celebrate this day, we ask every parent to write a note in French to their child on a paper handprint that will be displayed and then read to the children. For the daycare program, you will find blank handprints and pens in a basket near the Procure station. After writing the note to your child, please stick it on the poster below the staff pictures. For the out-of-school care program, you will find the handprints and pens in a basket on the round table at the entrance



of the program. After writing the note to your child, please stick it on the communication board. For the preschool program, your child's educator will give you a blank handprint to be returned at pick up time. Thank you in advance for your participation: children will greatly appreciate it.

La Société Pommes de Reinette Daycare Annual General Meeting (AGM)

The AGM will be held on November 29th 2018 at 7:00pm in the cafeteria of La Cité des Rocheuses. A babysitting service will be available for the event duration. As a member of La Société Pommes de Reinette Daycare, it is every family's duty to have one parent attend the annual general meeting. In addition to the presentation of the annual report by the board of directors, elections for board positions will also take place this year. Although it is every family's right to participate on the board of directors, we especially encourage families with young children to do so in order to provide continuity in the governance of La Société. If you have knowledge and/or experience in accounting, human resources and/or communication, and are interested in joining La Société's board of directors, please send an email to president@pommessdereinette.com. A nomination form will be sent for you to fill out.

Christmas Vacations

Please communicate your child's Christmas vacations to us prior to November 30th to help us manage staffing needs over the holiday period.

The Christmas Party

The Christmas party will be held on Thursday, December 13th from 5:00pm to 7:00pm. Exceptionally, the daycare and out-of-school care programs will close at 5:00pm and the late pick-up fee policy will take effect at 5:00pm that day.

We invite all families to join us for this celebration. The evening will include a Christmas show presented by the children, a potluck dinner and a visit from Santa. We are currently looking for a volunteer father who would be willing to play Santa's role that evening. If you are interested, please communicate with Jade at sudest@pommessdereinette.com.



For a complete visit with Santa, we invite all parents to bring a book, wrapped up and clearly identified with your children's names (first and last). This will help Santa and his elf with their gift distribution. Please bring your books to the office before December 7th.

Families interested in participating in the pot luck dinner must confirm their attendance and procure their tickets in advance. As usual, La Société will provide chili as the main course and families will be responsible for side dishes and desserts. The sign-up sheet for the Christmas party will be posted on the daycare door in the next few weeks. Please indicate the total number of family members attending the pot luck (including the child performing in the Christmas show) as well as the side dish/dessert you will bring. Don't forget to pick up your tickets at the office afterwards.

Clothing

Since we have frequent periods of cold temperatures, it is very important that your child has weather appropriate clothing. Please remember that scarves are prohibited so please provide a neck-warmer for your child on cold days.

Shoe Covers

Parents who do not want to take off their footwear when entering the playrooms must wear the provided blue shoe covers.

Out-of-school Care Absences

Please inform the office if your child is absent from the program because he/she left school before the end of the day, or stayed home that day. The school does not communicate absences to the daycare.

If you have any questions, comments or concerns, please communicate with your child's educator or the administration.

Thank you

Jade, Isabelle and the Pommes de Reinettes team