



## NE Pommes de Reinette 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.

Swimming lessons for the 3 to 5 years old are now over. 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. The children really enjoyed trick-or-treating at ATB Financial's offices. Thank you to the parent volunteers who accompanied the children on their outing.

Now that Halloween is behind us, we have begun preparations for the Christmas party which will take place on December 6<sup>th</sup> 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 Reinette 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 20<sup>th</sup> 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](http://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 at the playrooms entrance. After writing the note to your child, please stick it on the poster above the lockers. For the out-of-school care program, you will find the handprints and pens in a basket by the Procure station. 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@pommesdereinette.com](mailto:president@pommesdereinette.com). A nomination form will be sent for you to fill out.

### **Photos**

The photo shoot took place last week. We will send you the instructions to review and order your photos as soon as we receive them.

### **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 6th 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.

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 1<sup>st</sup>.



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 bulletin board at the daycare

entrance. Please indicate the total number of family members attending the pot luck 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.

### **Menus**

The fall menus have been changed. The less popular foods have been eliminated and new options have been introduced to expose children to new flavours. We want to thank Marie-Eve, professional nutritionist, for her expert guidance given voluntarily.

### **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**

**Audrey, Isabelle and the Pommes de Reinettes team**