



Newsletter – March 2016

It's that time of year where you can feel "spring" in the air! The children have been excited to be outside enjoying their outdoor programming, making tracks with their boots, jumping in slush and painting snow with food colouring. **With all this fun - please be sure your child has extra dry clothes in their cubby!**

There has also been some extra indoor fun such as riding plasma cars around the classroom on extreme weather days. Recently, many of the children have decided that paper towel rolls make perfect "hockey sticks" and an indoor rink has sprouted from their imaginations and has become a mini arena in our classroom!

We are happy to welcome Pauline back full time now that her Early Childhood Education placements for this school year are complete – we sure missed her! A big thank you to Renee for all her extra work during this time. Makonsag would also like to acknowledge the fantastic supply teachers who joined our program including Sherry, Laura and Seki (to name a few), all of whom the children really connected with.

Please also note that over the next while our Family Coordinator Wendy will be away from the centre. During this time, our teachers will be available to all families and I am also here to provide support or answer any questions you may have.

Diapers: We hope you will find it helpful and convenient that Makonsag will provide diapers from this point forward. Teachers will continue to support the children in their established toileting routines and assist with potty training plans. If your child has skin sensitivities to certain brands, please let us know. For hygienic reasons, we ask that parents/caregivers continue to provide diaper cream (if needed), which will be labelled and stored for the exclusive use of your child.

Parent Circle: You are invited to attend a workshop here at Makonsag on **Thursday March 31st from 1:00 to 2:30**. This workshop will focus on "Positive Discipline" and be presented by Renee and Pauline based on their on recent training received through the Ontario Aboriginal Head Start Association.

Important dates to remember:

1. Closed March break: **Monday March 14th to Friday 18th**
2. Closed Easter: **Friday March 25th and Monday March 28th**
3. Parent Circle: **Thursday March 31st**
4. Community Session: **Saturday April 2nd** for staff, families, board of directors and Aboriginal Best Start community members focused on "How Does Learning Happen" ~ details to follow
5. Field trip: Sugar bush tour in April ~ stay tuned!

Wishing everyone a wonderful spring season,

Carey Calder, Executive Director

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