

June and August 2016

R&S Out of School Care Inc.

Fully accredited



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Dear Parents,

We hope the month of May was wonderful to all of you, and the month of June treats you even better! We are so proud of all our children for their outstanding performances in the 2016 Spring Concert, it was beautiful to see the diversity our centre has to offer and we are extremely thankful to all who contributed and made the event possible, thank you!

General News

Fort McMurray Fundraiser

Thanks to the wonderful efforts of the R&S kids and Beatriz Wanderley's Spring Concert Sale, we have raised a total of \$300.00 to be donated to those affected by the Fort McMurray Wildfire. We are so proud of the children for their hard work, and R&S extends our sympathy to the victims of the disaster.

Free Childcare for Fort McMurray Families

In addition to the \$300.00 fundraised, R&S is offering free out of school care for the month of June for any families from Fort McMurray.

A Sincere Thank You

R&S would like to thank each and every one of you who came out to the 2016 Spring Concert. A special thank you goes out to grandma Janet Meikle for her wonderful photos of the concert. A massive thanks as well to all who assisted in cleaning up after the concert and all the delicious food that was provided. Without each of you, the concert would not have been a success and the staff at R&S would like to thank you endlessly for your contributions.

To the Lo family, thank you for the lovely picnic table! The kids love the newest addition to the outside toys, and have been using it regularly!

Indoor Shoes

Since R&S will be closing for the month of July, we would like to remind all families to take home their children's indoor shoes. Any shoes still remaining in the church after June 30th will be donated to a charity.

Dressing for the Warm Weather

As you may have noticed, the sun is out and about for the summer months! At R&S we encourage the children to spend time outside enjoying the weather, however it is important to remember to dress accordingly to protect ourselves from the sun. Please ensure your children are wearing the appropriate clothing, this includes sunhats and sunglasses. As well, please **send sunscreen with your children!** Make sure their sunscreen bottles/sprays are labelled with their names to avoid any potential mix-ups.

Care for June 29th and 30th

The last two days of June are the first two days summer! Please indicate whether you will require care on these days on the sign-up sheet on the front foyer desk. Thank you!!

Last Day of Operation

THE LAST DAY OF OPERATION FOR R&S WILL BE JUNE 30TH 2016 AND WE WILL RE-OPEN AUGUST 2ND 2016 FOR THE SUMMER.

Summer 2016

Can you believe the school year is almost over? This year's summer at R&S will consist of children's favourite fieldtrips and fun-packed weekly programming with different themes each week!

R&S Summer Guidelines

Welcome to another fun-packed summer at R&S! Please review these guidelines with your child as these rules are important for everyone:

- Please inform us of any **changes to your child's file**, especially your parent and emergency contact phone numbers. These are essential for your child's safety.
- Please complete and **return the summer participation permission** and child behaviour agreement forms attached by June 30th.
- Please be aware of our **daily postings!** Information will be attached to exterior doors, the dry erase board, and the paper flip board at the front of our center.
- Information on our exact location (on a field trip, at a park etc.) and leave/return times will always be posted at our door if we are away.
- Information on future field trips and times will be on the paper flip board inside the foyer. Please be aware of these times as they are crucial for ensuring we are on time for our bus and field trip schedules!
- Information on cancellations or rescheduling of field trips will be immediately posted. Please remember to review daily postings!
- **Please drop off your child no later than 9AM each day.** For field trip days, we require adequate time to make sure we have time to double check numbers and prepare every child before the bus arrives. For regular days, we still have activities planned in which knowing our numbers accurately is critical. If you know you will not be able to arrive by 9AM on a given day, please let us know as soon as possible.
- Please ensure a **staff is aware of your child's arrival/departure** each day. **Please DO NOT leave your child with church staff.**

Summer Checklist: General Day

Please bring the following items, **labelled** with your child's name, to R&S daily:

- Hat
- Sunscreen & bug spray (can be labelled and kept at R&S)
- Water Bottle
- Comfy shoes
- Extra snacks/drinks
- Swim suit/towel/swim shirt (we often visit parks with water features)

On regular summer days, please do NOT bring:

- ✗ Foods with nuts or nut products
- ✗ Money

Summer Checklist: Field Trip Day

On field trip days, please:

- Bring a bagged lunch that does not require heating or refrigeration
- Bring MAXIMUM 10\$ spending money (to buy souvenirs, food etc.). Exceptions can be made with parent permission.

Summer Monthly Fees and Holding Fees

Should you not require care over the summer, the **\$300 per child holding fee** to reserve your child's spot for the fall is **due by June 30th**. Otherwise, if you have not yet submitted your summer 2016 fees, they will also be due by June 30th, 2016.

August FEES: \$600/month
\$500/two weeks of care
\$300/week for one week of care

Policy Updates

Cellular Communication

We have implemented a new policy regarding mandatory communication via cell phone in the event of a child's absence. Please take some time to read the policy provided below, thank you.

Cellular Communication Policy

Cell phone communication is one of the primary forms of contact between R&S and our families. In addition to being efficient and convenient, a standardized practice of use can greatly enhance the effectiveness of cellular communication:

1. **A notification via text, voice call or voice mail is necessary when a child will be absent from morning or afternoon care.** It is a priority for us to ensure all children are accounted for. If we are unaware of an absence (e.g. a child was sent to school already or already picked up), transportation to or from school may be delayed due to waiting for a child who is not coming or undergoing the procedure of confirming the absence of a child.
2. **Responses to texts and voicemails**
 - a. A response text will always be sent to confirm that a text was received. If you do NOT receive a response to your text, please text us again.

- b. A voicemail will not receive a confirmation response. Assume that a voicemail was received, even without a text. We may call back if there are further details that need to be discussed.

3. Time stamps for communication

- a. Texts automatically display the time and date they were sent.
- b. Our voicemails do NOT automatically display when they were received. **In your voicemail, please include the date and time.**

Upcoming Events

Annual Evaluation Meeting

Our programs, policies, and procedures are evaluated on an annual basis. This year, our evaluation meeting will be held on June 20th from 6:00 – 8:00 PM. All parents are welcome to attend! This is an excellent opportunity to voice any questions, comments, or concerns about our program at R&S. Your input is encouraged and always greatly appreciated.

Special Celebrations

Birthdays of the month

Jack Snow – June 2nd

Lily Gervais – June 27th

Fatiha – June 28th

Cultural Celebrations

Ramadan – June 7th

Father’s Day – June 19th

First Day of Summer – June 20th

Would you like to suggest an activity for R&S for the following month?

At R&S, parental involvement in our program is of utmost priority. This is an area in which you and your children can suggest any activities, games, crafts, celebrations, or snacks for R&S! You may also express any questions or concerns. Using this detachable area of our monthly newsletter is completely voluntary. We value all feedback and suggestions we receive. Thank you!
