



Southgate Medallion Tribute Parents Edition



Welcome

Welcome to the January/February 2022 edition of the Southgate Medallion Family Day Home Agency parent newsletter.

Coordinator Corner

On behalf of all at Southgate Medallion Family Day Home Agency I would like to wish you all a Happy 2022!

The ECE community has experienced numerous changes in the past two years, and 2022 does not look like it is slowing down. With the announcement of the \$10 a day childcare agreement, there is great anticipation as we begin this new year as to what that will look like for all involved, in particular how this impacts parents and families.

Here are the latest news from the government regarding the \$10 a day childcare plan that we got so far:

- ***For those parents who are currently receiving subsidy, please be aware that you will be notified by subsidy in early to mid of January of any changes to the amount you are currently receiving. Please send a copy of this to your consultant as soon as you receive it.***
- ***For parents who currently do not qualify but are thinking that they will qualify once the changes come into effect, you will be able to start applying in early to mid of January. If you apply and qualify, please inform your consultant immediately by sending a copy of your approval, including the date it is effective and the amount you qualify for.***

To apply please use this link: <https://applychildcaresubsidy.alberta.ca>

⇒ Please be aware that there will be **NO CHANGES/REDUCTIONS** to your direct withdrawals in January as the government is still unclear as to how these changes to payments will look. Please ensure that you have enough funds in the account in which the agency makes a withdrawal.

If you have any questions, the agency will be happy to try and answer them as much as possible but would remind you that our knowledge of these changes currently very minimal.

The agency will continue to keep you updated of new developments as soon as possible.

Thank you for your continued support

Emma Dajavs

Upcoming Holidays

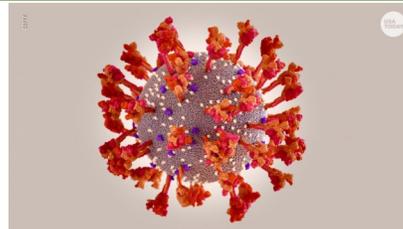
January 1st : New Year

February 21th: Family Day

February 1st : Lunar New Year

Reminders

- ◆ Alberta is closely monitoring the emergence of Omicron, the new COVID-19 variant of concern. As a precaution, the agency strongly encourages parents to complete the screening checklist for yourself and your child upon arrival. If you or your child have been tested and are waiting for the result, please keep your child at home until receiving the result.
- ◆ Please inform your consultant regarding changes of your schedule within 3 business days before start of the following month.



Upcoming Community Events

Ice on Whyte returns

When: Jan 27, 2022, 5:00 p.m.–Feb 6, 2022, 9:30 p.m.

Where: Dr. Wilbert Mcintyre Park
8331 104 St NW, Edmonton, AB

Family Fun at the World Waterpark - half-off regular admission

When: Friday, January 14, 2022

Where: West Edmonton Mall World Waterpark, 8882-170 Street

Times: Opening time for this event is 5:30 pm - you are able to line up as early as 5:00 pm

Tickets are \$25 each (This is half the price of regular admission!) + GST and small Eventbrite fee. **Kids 2 and under are FREE and do not need tickets**

Family book club (Free)

This engaging program allows participants to develop and strengthen their literacy, numeracy and language skills through interactive and innovative story sharing. This program series offers each family the opportunity to share stories and discover a wide variety of activities and games they can do together as a family. Each family will receive a Family Book Club Kit full of everything they need to bring their story to life! For ages 3 to 6 years.

Location: Via Zoom

Date: Tuesdays starting Jan. 11 to Mar. 22, 2022 (no session Feb. 15)

Time: 6:30PM to 7:30PM

To register for programs please call 780-478-5396 or email reception@kara-frc.ca



Check out our Facebook page at:

<https://www.facebook.com/southgatedallion/>

Educator Spotlight

In the learning time, I provided loose part materials for children to explore. Child L picked a cardboard which I wrote numbers on it and a box of rocks and seashells. She read the numbers on the cardboard first, then she put some seashells and rocks to represent the numbers. She counted few times to make sure the amount of the rocks and seashells matched the numbers. After she have done her numbers, she clapped her hands happily.

This activity enhanced her cognitive learning and fine motor skills. She was playfully exploring and investigating the properties of objects, creating patterns and relationships by sorting and matching



After snack time, children asked me if they could do some crafts. I asked them: "What craft do you guys want to do?" They said they wanted to draw. I provided paper, crayons and different pens for them to use. Child A chose the black pen and held her pen on a good position. I observed she started to draw a lot of circles first. While she added some waves and straight lines, she told me that she was making some cookies.

Child M told me: "I'm making a snowy river to go Ice Fishing." And she kept stroking her blue crayon on her paper to make the river wider and deeper. She was smile while she was drawing.

Through this activity, children used their imagination and creativity. Also, they were expressing their emotions by drawing and developing a vocabulary to describe their arts.

By Mercy Gen Delan





**Southgate Medallion
Family Day Homes**
Excellence in Child Care & Early Learning

#209, 11 Fairway Drive
Edmonton, Alberta T6J 2W4
Phone # 780-438-4012
Fax # 780-435-6605
www.southgatemedallion.com
Email: info@sgmfdh.com

Families of Southgate Medallion Family Day Homes,

We hope everyone is doing well and staying healthy during these unprecedented times.

Certainly, many of you have heard that the Alberta and Federal Government are making changes to the subsidy program in an effort to help make quality childcare more affordable and accessible. Families who may not have qualified previously may now be eligible to receive subsidy.

At this time, we would like to send out a general reminder regarding AB Government subsidy and the procedures to meet its conditions. These procedures have not changed.

To apply for a subsidy, you must complete the online form accessible from the link below and send in required documents to the subsidy office.

If approved, parents need to inform the agency and send in a copy of approval. This is critical to the application of the subsidy credit being applied to parents' accounts. Keep in mind that it is the parents' responsibility to inform the agency of subsidy status and sending in copies of approvals. Please carefully read subsidy approvals watching for both the amount and duration of approval. The subsidy amounts do reduce with children's age as well as other factors. The subsidy office will send a reminder to parents when approvals are about to expire. Keep your subsidy current by reapplying on the month your subsidy is set to expire.

To receive full subsidy, a minimum of 100 hours of care per month for pre-school aged children and a minimum of 50 hours of care per month for school-aged children must be reached. In cases where there are less than the minimum hours, subsidy will prorate the amount issued on your behalf. Be aware this affects a parents' portion of the monthly childcare fee. Parents are responsible to pay all contracted fees not covered by subsidy.

Concerning holding fee arrangement, when your Educator has agreed to hold your child's spot without fee or an agreed upon amount, no subsidy will be issued. In addition, any fees arranged with your educator must be communicated to your consultant. In these cases, no government subsidy credits will be issued for zero hours of care in any arrangement.

As a courtesy, the Agency tries to remind all subsidized parents when subsidies are about to expire. However, it is parents' responsibility to ensure their subsidy remains active and updated. This is imperative to avoid surprises and disappointment at the beginning of the month when fees are withdrawn.

To find out more about subsidy and if you may qualify, please see the link below or contact the subsidy office at 780-644-9992 for more information.

<https://www.alberta.ca/child-care-subsidy.aspx>.

We will do our best to answer questions regarding subsidy and update you as new information arises. However, questions are best answered by the AB Government subsidy office.

A big thank you to our families and Educators. We appreciate that this has been a difficult time for all of us. As always, we are working hard to continue communication to meet the needs of both parents and Educators.

We wish you and your families all the very best and a Happy Holiday Season.