

St. Anne's Edition

Spring 2021



News from Administration...

The fundraiser committee tried our first ever Epicure fundraiser! Thank you for all who participated in this new event.

The weather has brought us some sunshine and heat. Please remember we try to go outside 2 times per day. We provide water stations outside for the children so when and if they need a drink it is available. It is always good to send your child/children with a hat, bathing suit and to apply sunscreen before they arrive at childcare. We also ensure sunscreen is applied before we head outside for play in the morning and afternoon. We are going to aim to be outside by 8 am each morning once the hot weather is here to stay. This way we can try to beat the heat.

The annual meeting was held May 31/21 with our New Director Rebecca Dodman. The recap of 2020 was by far one of the most challenging and unpredictable years we have faced due to Covid 19. I would like to thank all the staff and families who have stayed true to GTFRC. There has been a lot of change with all the new policies put in place to ensure we can stay open to care for your children. -Ms. Tina

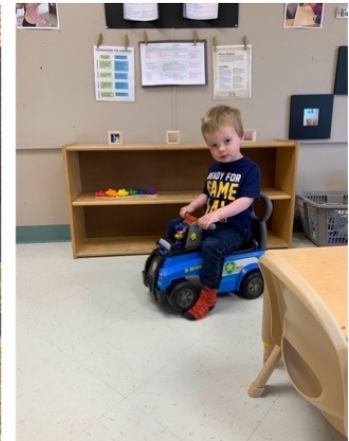


Toddler News

In the toddler classroom at St. Annes the toddlers have been spending a lot of time outside with the nice weather. They have been really interested in water play with the spray bottles, using sand to hide the animals in the sandbox and filling up buckets with sand and then dumping them out.

They have also been very into cars and trucks. When we are inside they spend a lot of time on our ride on cars and playing with the trucks and cars in the classroom.

Ms. Shayna, Ms Tea



Growing Together



Family Resource Centre Inc.

PIC•COLLAGE

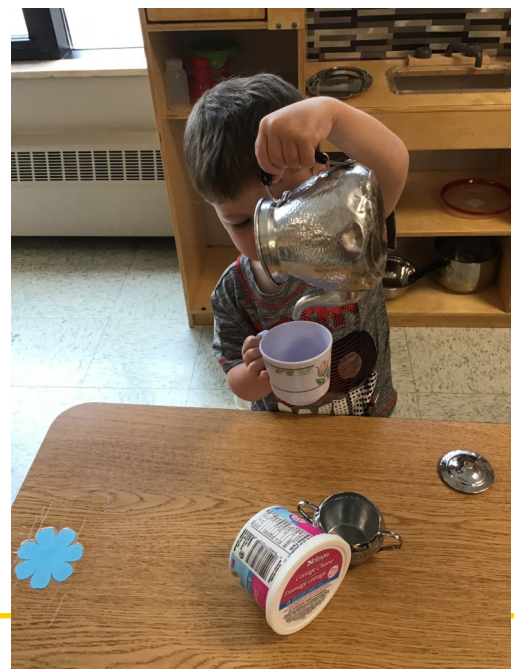
Junior Preschool News

We are having a party! A tea party that is. The children have really enjoyed the tea set we have added to our house center. The children have been pouring coffee and tea for each other and often tell us stories of who drinks coffee and tea at their house. They enjoy scooping and pouring the gems (loose parts) into their cups pretending it is tea. Then they bring out the cake tins and pretend to serve pieces of cake for each other 😊

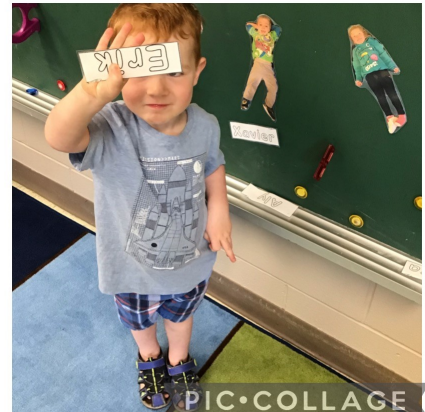


Building sandcastles and stomping them over has been popular in our playground lately. The children work hard at filling their buckets, then carefully tip the buckets over and give a little tap. They get so excited with they pick the bucket up and see a castle underneath. They then stomp and jump on the castle and start the process all over again.

We have had a lot of new families join our jr preschool and would like to ask our families to send in a family photo. The children love sharing stories about the important people in their lives and we would like to add your family photo to our family wall :)



Senior Pre-school News



Our senior preschool room has been enjoying the beautiful weather. We love to climb the tree and the Jeep in our playground. The children have been telling us they are sloths as the hang upside down. We have put up the children's names on our blackboard along with their pictures. The children are recognizing their names by the first letter. Some children have also asked to write their names. Way to go preschoolers! Painting and building are a few of the children's favourite activities. With the warm weather here we are asking parents to send in a bathing suit labeled to either stay here or go back and forth. We hope to have lots of water play outside. Wish list: plastic grocery bags old pots and pans ,bowls, spoons ,placemats.

Today while the children were outside under the tree, they noticed small holes in some of the hanging leafs. Upon further investigation they found a baby caterpillar munching away on one of the leafs. As their interests in this little creature grew they quickly grabbed a paper cup to fill it with natural materials for their new friend! Once they got him all situated they made it a mission to find more!!

Together the children took it upon themselves to find and care for baby caterpillars. They asked their teachers various questions and later conducted a online research for further information regarding that particular breed.

Through this experience the children were able to freely explore their environment and also gained valuable insight into the lives of caterpillars.

We are going to expand our horizons as well as our knowledge by having group discussions and also searching for other insects and species the children might want to learn about and care for.

**4.5 COGNITION
Inquiry;
Observing and
forming questions.
Collecting information.**

-FDK & School Age



School Age & FDK News

PIC•COLLAGE

Board Member News

Board of Directors

Chair - Joan Vsetula

Vice Chair – Paula DeBoer

Secretary – Josselynne Segeren

Treasurer – Josselynne Segeren

Staff Liaison – David Birnie

Voting Members

*Paula DeBoer *Kaela Miller

*Josselynne Segeren

*Martha Nicholls

*Kathy Johnston

*L.A. Mercer

*Kristin Heaton

*David Birnie

* Lisa Sam

Board Member Bio's

Hello GTFRC families! My name is **Josselynne Segeren** and I have been a board member for 5 years now, and a Growing Together parent for 6 years. I joined the board about a year after we became a GTFRC family. I wanted to have a better understanding of behind the scenes of our child care, the inner workings that make our child care operate so smoothly day to day. It's a great experience to understand first-hand the challenges and all the successes that make GTFRC such a great place for both the staff and most importantly our children!

I work in business and education full time and am happy to bring some knowledge in these areas to our board, including being our board Treasurer. My husband and I have been married for 10 years and we have a young daughter. Our family has a wide range of hobbies including farming, camping, and biking. We grow a large vegetable garden and are anxiously awaiting the spring to get those seeds planted! This winter we have been skating and playing hockey on our pond. In the spirit of our child care rooms, our home has an open craft station where you can always find a project on the go!

To any family member who is thinking of possibly becoming a board member, I encourage you to reach out to a child care supervisor or the director for more information. We would love to hear from you!

Josselynne Segeren



Hello My Name Is **Paula DeBoer**. I have been on the GTFRC Board for the past 9 years. I am currently the Vice Chair of the Board, having held this position since 2019.

For the past seven years, I have been employed as Legal Counsel with Chatham-Kent Children's Services. Prior to that, I was employed in Windsor for ten ears as a Divorce Lawyer. I did all eight years of my post-secondary schooling in Windsor, having graduated from Blenheim District High School before that. I was a Grade 8 graduate of Harwich Raleigh Public School! Needless to say, I love this Chatham-Kent area that we live in and so have chosen to stay close to home for both my schooling and employment prospects.

I have been married to my husband Heath for the past eleven years – that being said, we were high school sweethearts and so the 11 years is actually very much of an understatement!

Ten years ago Heath and I were blessed to welcome our son Logan into our lives. Logan is a very happy, energetic and funny child who attended Growing Together first as an Infant, then he was off to the Toddler Room, then off to the Pre-School room he went – finally making his way into School Age. As a result of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, my job has transitioned from my physically being in a Courtroom to attending my Court matters from the safety of my own home over Zoom. This change in work environment meant that I no longer needed to have Logan enrolled in the Before and After School program. While I enjoy being able to drop him off and pick him up from school, I know Logan misses the many Educators and Friends he came into contact with each day when he did attend Growing Together.

Last but not least about my family are the Fur Kids - Thunder, our 17 year old black cat, and our almost 14 year old German Shepherd mix, King.

For fun I like to read anything that is not a Court file, as well as walk the trails with Heath and Logan in Rondeau Provincial Park, or making our way through the many different parts of the McLean Conservation Area.

Growing Together is special to me because as a working mother I could always count on Growing Together to provide wonderful care for my child, taking away any need for me to worry during my days about how Logan was doing. I knew he was in good hands and I of course have to mention how Logan still talks about some of the meals he was provided during his time at Growing Together. The daily menus always made me jealous as I was eating re-heated leftovers at work!

-Paula DeBoer

Kitchen Corner

Biscuits—Red Lobster Style!

Ingredients:

- 2 cups flour
- 1 tablespoon baking powder
- 1 to 3 tablespoons sugar
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 cup melted butter
- 1 cup milk



Baking Instructions:

- Preheat oven to 375 F
- Mix dry ingredients
- Add butter and milk
- Drop onto cookie sheet and bake for 10-12 minutes
- Add garlic powder and shredded cheese on top!

Enjoy!!

-Ms. Nancy & Ms. Denise