

## GTFRC September & October newsletter, 2020 for WJ Baird

Hello! Please let me introduce myself. My name is Rebecca Dodman and I am the new director at Growing Together Family Resource Centre. I am a Registered Early Childhood Educator and I have worked in childcare for the past 23 years. My husband and I live in the country, outside of Blenheim, with our three teenaged children. I enjoy spending time with my family and friends, campfires, off road vehicles and football. I started at Growing Together in January of 2002. I instantly fell in love with the philosophy and culture of the organization. I have had the opportunity to work with all age groups over the years, alongside many amazing ECE's. In 2015, I became a supervisor with Growing Together as we opened the Chatham May Court location. After becoming a supervisor, my role changed from working directly with children, to inspiring and mentoring the staff at my centre. In July 2020, I officially took over as the Director for Growing Together. I am very grateful for this opportunity. I would like to continue to offer quality, play based childcare to families in Chatham Kent. Through Emergent programming, Inspiring Environments and Remarkable Educators, I want Growing Together to continue to be a great place to be.



## Welcome to Toddler Land!

In the toddler room over the last few months, the toddlers have been enjoying all the fun that the fall season brings. We have enjoyed the nice weather while it is here by spending as much of our time outside as we can. We have done many fun activities while outdoors! We read *Going on a Nature Hunt*. We then went on our own nature hunt, we found leaves blowing by us, and we saw some birds in the sky, but the most exciting thing we found were some “mysterious” foot prints left on our picnic table. The children couldn’t decide if they were from a bird, a frog, or a squirrel. We also enjoyed exploring all the leaves falling from the trees. We threw them up in the air, and laughed as they fell back down onto our heads. Watching all the leaves flying in the sky gave us another great idea! We brought the colourful kite out and watched it dance in the sky!

We have had some changes happening in our toddler room lately. We are excited to welcome Ms. Sam into our room! However, this means Ms. Kelsey is now moving to screen you as you are coming into the centre as she awaits the arrival of her baby. Ms Kelsey is still coming in to help out whenever she can!

Ms Jaimi, Ms Sara, Ms Sam







## Preschool Room

Happy fall y'all

In the months of September and October the preschoolers have been interested in many different things but 3 of there top favourites that really stick out have been babies, animals, and treasure. To build on these interest we have been doing lots of fun things we've gone on treasure hunts, did a sensory scavenger hunt for treasure, and treasure buried in the sand. With all of the talk about animals recently we added some pictures of our animals from home to are classroom, we also printed off animal X-ray for are light table and added a doctors kit. The children not only like taking care of the animals but there babies as well. We are looking forward to all the fun fall activities like jumping in the leaves, and carving/painting pumpkins.

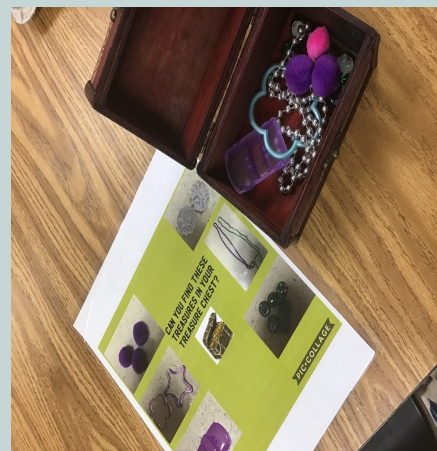
We hope you all have a fabulous  
Thanks Giving .

Wish list:

Child size rakes

Chalk

Ms Jess, Ms Lynetta, Ms Dawn



# FDK

Welcome fall!

September was a month full of learning new routines and making new friends as we welcomed Juniper! Got reacquainted with old, Welcome back Peyton, Myla , Nicholas, Joanna, Ruby and Lyvia. October sees us settled in and getting more and more comfortable. We have enjoyed feeling out the room, and having a space to call our own. We are busy painting and drawing, practicing writing, and making sure we have a lot of choices to hang up to decorate and really make the room reflect the children.

The children have shown an interest in games. This is hard as it needs to be washable, particularly if we are playing it a lot, and most games are not. We have however learned how to play Bingo (laminated pages) played with loose parts we have used plastic leaves and acorns. Another game I was able to adapt is a number game that plays like connect 4. We went on a leaf hunt to find our names after reading the book “Going on a leaf Hunt”. I saw a lot of teamwork playing out as they each would help one another out by saying “your name is over there,” or “is this your name?”

In this short time we try and go outside as much as we can. Here the children’s imaginations are shining as I see pretend games they do not play inside. They have become Dragons, cats, toilets (toilet tag), princesses and soccer players. We are most successful at going outside in the mornings, the afternoons I have found the children just want to come back to daycare and play quietly for a bit then start having snack closer to 4. After a busy day at school I know that they need that quiet and recharge time to get through the last few hours of the day.

I would like to thank Nicholas G and family for the puzzles and craft supplies. We are looking for other games, connect 4, dice, Jenga (games that can handle being wiped) and more pony beads.





## SCHOOL AGE



**I CAN'T BELIEVE IT'S ALREADY NOVEMBER!  
WE HAVE HAD SUCH A GREAT FIRST  
COUPLE MONTHS BACK!**

**SOME OF OUR FAVOURITE ACTIVITIES HERE  
IN SCHOOL AGE INCLUDE BINGO,  
CREATING LASER COURSES WITH YARN  
AND DOING ALL KINDS OF CRAFTS!**

**WE SPENT SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER  
CELEBRATING FALL, EXPLORING NATURE,  
DOING FALL CRAFTS AND SO MUCH MORE!**

**SOME OF THE KIDS HAVE SET A GOAL TO  
LEARN HOW TO MAKE BABY HATS BY  
CHRISTMAS SO WE CAN DONATE THEM TO  
THE HOSPITAL! STAY TUNED FOR THAT!**

**BEFORE WE KNOW IT, THE SNOW WILL  
BEGIN TO FALL AND WE WILL BE IN THE  
CHRISTMAS SEASON! 🍷**



## **Board of Directors**

Meet L.A Mercer. As a parent of two children attending GTFRC, she became an active member of the Board in 2019. L.A. was born and raised in Toronto and graduated from the Media Program at Ryerson University. Her career led her into the Charity sector where she has spent the past 10 years doing Community Outreach and Engagement. L.A. is an avid Toronto Blue Jays and Indianapolis Colts fan, and when she's not cheering on her teams, you'll find her spending time with her husband and children at Rondeau Park or listening to a wide variety of podcasts.





## **Cheddar Cheese Biscuit**

**2 cups all purpose flour**

**1/2 cup white sugar**

**1 tbl baking powder**

**1 tsp salt**

**1/2 tsp baking soda**

**1 1/2 cups shredded cheddar cheese**

**1 cup plain yogurt**

**2 large eggs, beaten**

**1/4 cup butter, melted**

Step 1: prepare the oven and preheat to 400 F

Step 2: Spray 12 large muffin cups

Step 3: In a large mixing bowl, add the baking powder, flour, sugar, and baking soda. Stir until well mixed.

Step 4: add the shredded cheese.

Step 5: Pour in the beaten eggs, yogurt and melted butter. Whisk until well mixed and moist.

Step 6: Scoop the batter and place them into the greased muffin cups.

Step 7: Bake in the oven for 18-20 minutes or until the color turns light brown.

Step 8: remove from oven and let cool on a wire rack. Serve warm. Can be refrigerated and warmed before serving in the microwave.

