



# Campus News

Campus Pre-School Association Newsletter  
1531 – 21 Avenue N.W. Calgary phone: 403-282-3530  
Website: [www.campuspreschool.com](http://www.campuspreschool.com)

October/November 2009

## Chairpersons' Message

Welcome to an exciting year of learning and fun at Campus Pre-School with our teachers Heidi, Mary and Sandra! We were thrilled to have Sandra join the preschool this summer, and look forward to working with her. Campus is a rewarding and exciting place to learn, build friendships and prepare for the big world of elementary school — for both the children and the parents. We are proud to announce once again that Campus Pre-School was recognized by Calgary's Child magazine as one of the best preschools that Calgary has to offer. Please watch upcoming newsletters for your invitation to vote in the annual Calgary's Child Magazine's Parents' Choice Awards.

We would like to sincerely thank the board and committee members who worked throughout the summer to get things ready for another school year – some of you may have noticed our classrooms have a fresh coat of paint! Our website ([www.campuspreschool.com](http://www.campuspreschool.com)) also has a fresh new look, and it's a great place to go for information on our teachers, school policies and more.

We'd also like to take this opportunity to thank each of **you** for taking on your various commitments — your support is essential in continuing to make Campus the excellent school it is known to be. Through your work on committees and in the classroom, you help to enrich your child's experience, to keep the school running, and have some fun, too.

All parents are invited to attend board meetings, and anyone interested in joining the board is encouraged to talk to one of the teachers or a current board member. Elections for board positions are held in February and May. Please watch your December/January newsletter and the bulletin board by the preschool entrance for reminders.

If you have any suggestions or questions about the school, please direct them to a board member or teacher. Our e-mail addresses are posted on the last page of every edition of our newsletter.

For those families who are new to Campus Preschool — Welcome. To those returning families — welcome back. We wish you all a great school year!

**Maureen McNamee,**  
**Chair**



## Junior Report by Mary Aubie

Welcome to Campus Pre-School! I hope that by the time you get this newsletter, you and your child are both feeling comfortable at the school. Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns. Time will be set aside for parent-teacher interviews in late January but don't wait until then to have a word on the playground. You can also give me a call at home if there are any concerns.

The play-school centers its activities on themes, which change every week or two. The theme for September was "Getting to Know You." We are concentrating on learning names and school routines. Upcoming themes for the Junior classes are as follows:

### Junior Schedule of Events

Sept. 28-Oct. 2 **All About Apples** — It's harvest time and we'll be counting, tasting and singing about apples.

Oct. 5-16 **Fall Changes** — The weather changes, animals prepare for winter and so do we.

Oct. 12 **Thanksgiving** — No school.

Oct. 19-30 **Masks and Magic** — A time for dressing up and let's pretend. We will be doing special Halloween activities. We will also have a very low-key "party" during class times on October 29 and 30. Please no costumes. They are difficult to play in and other children often find them frightening.

Nov. 2-6 **Sweet Dreams** — We will be talking about bedtime, dreams and how hard it can be to stop playing.

Nov. 9&10 **Baths and Brushing** — November is health month in the junior classes and our focus is on hygiene and taking care of our teeth.

Nov. 11 **Remembrance Day** — No school.

Nov. 12&13 **Professional Development** — We will be attending the ECEC conference. No school for children.

Nov. 16-27 **Eat to Grow** — Not babies any more! We'll be thinking about how we've changed and how good food helps us grow.



### Winter Dressing

Please remember to dress for the weather. We do go outside almost every day. Label outdoor clothes and boots. There are many look-a-likes and the children do not always know their own clothing. It saves us a lot of mixing and matching. Boots go in the basket in Heidi's and Sandra's room at the bottom of the stairs. All other outdoor things, (i.e. coats, snow pants, mittens, hats, scarves) go in the cloth bags on your child's hook.


**Please do not leave any of these clothes in your child's backpack because they are likely to be missed that way.** Anyone who can come early to help with dressing will be welcomed with open arms!!

## Senior Report

by Heidi Dick and Sandra Jensen

Welcome to Campus Preschool. It is wonderful to welcome back familiar faces and to meet new families. We are sure this will be another busy, fun year as we get to know all of you. If you have any ideas, skills or projects you would like to share please let us know. There will be a day in Jan. for Parent –Teacher interviews but anytime you have concerns or questions please get in touch with us. You are welcome to call us at home or at school outside of class times. We use themes in planning because they provide a loose framework for activities. We started the year with a theme of “Getting to Know You” with songs and games using the children’s names as they became comfortable with the routines and began to make friends. We moved on to explore colors. Here are the themes for October and November:

### Senior Schedule of Events

- 
- Oct 5 – 9 Fall  
13 -16 We will explore seasonal changes, harvest time and make applesauce
- Oct 12 Thanksgiving - no school
- Oct 19–30 Halloween Fun  
We will be doing spooky crafts, songs and games. We will celebrate during class times on October 29 and October 30. Please no costumes, as they can be frightening or difficult to play in.
- Nov 2 – 20 Fantasy / Fairytales  
We will be reading, telling and dramatizing familiar fairy tales nursery rhymes and stories.
- Nov.11 Remembrance Day - No School
- Nov.12 –13 These are Professional Development days and there will be **no school** for the children. We will be attending an Early Childhood Education conference in Calgary.
- Nov 23 –27 Five Senses - We will do some exploring with our senses.

### Notes

- ✿ Please welcome Sandra Jensen We will be sharing the room as well as plans and ideas for our classes. We are looking forward to an exciting year for us all.
- ✿ We do go outside every day (almost). Please dress your child for the weather and don’t forget to put his/her name on everything – backpack, coat, sweater, snow pants, boots, mitts, hat, etc., etc.
- ✿ Please remember to sign your child in and out on the attendance sheets and have her/him say goodbye.
- ✿ Thank you to parents helping to supervise on the playground. We appreciate the increased safety.
- ✿ We use the clipboards to post notices of current information and school events. Please read them and pass information along to others in your carpool.
- ✿ Also, thanks to all parents for the work you do on the board and committees and your help in the classroom.

## About Our Teachers

**Mary Aubie** I have been teaching junior classes at Campus since Sept. 2000. I enjoy it very much. My co-workers, the board, the parents and, of course, the children are all wonderful to work with.

I graduated from Mount Royal College in 1985 with a diploma in Early Childhood Education. I have several years' related pre-school experience. My husband Ray and I have two boys, Justin and Joseph, who are both graduates of Campus Pre-School.

My goal is to provide an enriching, safe and positive experience for your child with the emphasis on having FUN! I look forward to getting to know all of you throughout the year.

**Heidi Dick** I had a great summer. I did lots of hiking, biking, canoeing, and backpacking in Montana, Alberta and British Columbia. I am now settling back into the routines and joys of life with preschoolers. I have been teaching four-year-olds at Campus for the past 20 years and I still enjoy it. This year I will also be spending some days with my almost 2-year-old grandson.

I have a BA in Child Development and Early Childhood Education from Pacific Oaks College in California. My husband and I choose to come to Canada and moved to Calgary in 1975. We lived in Lethbridge for 12 years. During that time a friend and I started a parent co-op preschool and I taught there for several years. I also was an instructor in the Early Childhood Diploma Program at Lethbridge Community College for five years.

We have four children, two of whom attended Campus as preschoolers. They are now mostly grown and keep us busy in different ways. All four of them are in Calgary this year, which will be fun.

**Sandra Jensen** My experience in the area of early childhood education began 21 years ago when I graduated from Mount Royal College in this field. I worked for the Calgary Board of Education in a program for teenage mothers and their children at Louise Dean for three years before I began a family of my own.

When my youngest daughter Emily was three I took on the position as Preschool Teacher at St. Agnus elementary school in Vermilion, South Dakota, where I taught for two years before we moved back to Calgary. Once our children were settled into their new schools I worked for the Lead Foundation as an aid to children with autism. This was an amazing experience.

I'm very excited about this new opportunity I have to work at Campus Pre-School and look forward to getting to know your children.

### Special Events and Dates to Remember

Thanksgiving  
October 12 – Statutory holiday. No school.

Halloween Celebrations  
October 29 – 30

Remembrance Day  
November 11 - Statutory holiday. No school

Professional Development  
November 12 - 13 – Professional Development days. No school for children.



## Registrars' Report

by **Liz Hale Boyes (Jr.) and Claudia Cull (Sr.)**

Hello and welcome to all newcomers and returning families! We hope everyone had a wonderful summer and we look forward to getting to know all the new faces over the next few months.

We currently have a few spots available in the senior class as well as one spot in the junior class.

Junior (max 16)	Senior (max 18)
T/Th am – 16	T/Th am – 17
M/W/F am – 15	M/W/F am – 15
T/Th pm – 14	T/W/Th pm – 16

Spread the word about our fabulous school! Should you have friends or family interested in Campus Pre-School, please have them contact a registrar for more information.

Please have a look at the class lists posted in your classroom to verify all your information is correct and up-to-date. Remember to let us know if you move or change your phone number so we can keep our information current. If you have any questions or concerns, give us a call and we will be happy to help you in any way we can. You can reach Claudia (Senior Registrar) at [senior@campuspreshcool.com](mailto:senior@campuspreshcool.com) , or Liz (Junior Registrar) at [junior@campuspreschool.com](mailto:junior@campuspreschool.com).



## SCHOOL CALENDAR

Campus Pre-School 2009-2010 school calendar:



- Oct. 12** Thanksgiving Day – no school.
- Nov 11** Remembrance Day – no school.
- Nov.12&13** **Professional Development- We will be attending the ECEC conference here in Calgary this year. No school for children.**
- Nov. 21** Silent Auction Night (adults only).
- Dec.15&16** Christmas parties and last days of school before Christmas (TWTh class party is on Tuesday, Dec. 15). Parents should plan to attend. Parties are 10-11:30 a.m. or 1-2:30 p.m.
- Dec. 17** Organizational Day – no school for children.
- Jan. 4** School starts.
- Jan. 21&22** Parent-Teacher Interviews – no school for children.
- Feb. 11&12** Teacher's Convention – no school. We will attend the Preschool Teachers' conference in January and these are lieu days.
- Feb. 15** Family Day – no school.
- Mar. 26** Last day of school before Spring Break.
- April 6** School resumes.
- April** There will be a PD day for teachers. We will be doing the annual renewal of our CPR certification. Date to be announced.
- May** There will be a PD day for the teachers. Date to be announced. This will be a lieu day for a conference we are attending on October 24<sup>th</sup> dealing with brain development and laughter yoga.
- May 24** Victoria Day – no school.
- June 2&3** Field trip to Butterfield Acres.
- June 21** Year-end Picnic – all classes attend; last day of school.
- June 22&23** Organizational days – no school for children

## Fundraising Report

by **Lisa Schaffer and Diane Graca, Fundraising Co-Chairs**

### Why Fundraise?

Another preschool year is upon us and it is nice to see old and new faces. Campus Pre-School's longstanding success can be attributed to its incredible teachers, who create a rich space for our children to play and grow. It is also due to the parental involvement in the preschool. Since Campus is a co-operative, not-for-profit preschool, we run a very tight budget with little room for "extras." Fundraising at Campus allows us to further the success of the preschool by allowing such activities as:

- the annual Butterfield Acres field trip;
- school upkeep such as painting the preschool classroom and replenishing toys
- teachers' professional development (conferences and workshops);
- treats for the annual pyjama party and the end-of-year picnic; and
- Entertainment at Christmas.

It is important for everyone to contribute to the fundraising responsibility at Campus. Watch for posters in the classrooms, notices in your child's backpack, by email and on the Campus Pre-School website announcing our most recent fundraising activities. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions, fundraising ideas or want to get more involved.

Lisa Schaffer  
403-270-2186  
lcschaffer@shaw.ca

Diane Graca  
403-286-6051  
di.john@shaw.ca

## Fall Fundraising Events

To start off our fundraising year we have set up an **online magazine fundraising store** that has over 650 of the most popular magazine titles. Anyone in Canada can **order or renew** their magazine subscriptions any time day or night with substantial saving. **AND** 37% of all online purchases will be returned to Campus Pre-School!!

So please pass on this website to your family and friends, and with your help we are sure to reach our fundraising goal, which will help us continue to create a rich environment for our children to play and grow.

[www.magfundraising.ca/CampusPreSchool](http://www.magfundraising.ca/CampusPreSchool)



We are also selling **Lovable Labels** this year, which will help you get all your children's personal belongings labeled. For your convenience, there will be two ordering options:

- 1.) the online store, which can be found at [www.CampusPreschool.lovablelabels.ca](http://www.CampusPreschool.lovablelabels.ca). Your labels will be sent directly to your home.
- 2.) traditional order forms starting September 29<sup>th</sup> - October 16<sup>th</sup>. Catalogues and order forms will be in Heidi/Sandra's room. Orders will be delivered to the Pre-School two weeks after the closing date and distributed in your child's backpack.

If you have any questions regarding any of our fundraisers, please contact:

Lisa Schaffer  
403-270-2186 or [lcschaffer@shaw.ca](mailto:lcschaffer@shaw.ca)

### Important Upcoming Event!

**Saturday, November 21<sup>st</sup>** – Campus Pre-School's **Annual Silent Auction** will be held in the hall above the preschool. This evening is our **\*major\*** fundraising event for the preschool and a great way to get a bit of Christmas shopping done while sampling some delicious food. This year we must ask every family to donate at least one item to be auctioned. Many businesses are willing to participate when asked, since it is a fabulous advertising opportunity while donating to a great cause. So mark it on your calendar and plan to bring friends and family — the more the merrier!

Remember, donations do not necessarily need to be solicited or purchased. Your own professional service such as accounting, legal services, carpentry or house cleaning can be donated. Or, personal specialties like gardening, being a handyman, cooking, baking, homemade items or even babysitting services can also be offered.

Watch for notices via email, on the Campus website and in your children's backpacks with more information. Hope to see everyone **Saturday, November 21<sup>st</sup>**!

## Preparing for Parent Help

**By Megan Van Ham, Chair of Committees**

Welcome to Parent Help at Campus Pre-School! As you may have already discovered, Parent Help days are an excellent opportunity to see your child at play while also getting to know other children at the preschool. Your role as a parent helper is critical. A parent must be in class every day to ensure Campus Pre-School meets Social Services' requirements for the correct adult-child ratio. In other words, *we couldn't run our classes without you!*

Parent Help schedules are developed by volunteers. We appreciate the role these volunteers play in ensuring things run smoothly. Parent Help schedulers will develop calendars a month at a time and post them at the preschool two weeks before the start of the month (e.g. November schedules should be posted by October 18). Copies of the calendars are also sent to you via e-mail or in your child's backpack if you request. The calendars provide all parents' phone numbers, any allergies or food restrictions in the class, prohibited foods, and the phone numbers for your parent help scheduler and the Vice-Chair of the Board. If you are unable to attend on your scheduled day, use the phone numbers on your calendar to try and find another parent who can switch with or replace you. If you are unable to find a replacement on your own or with the help of your parent help scheduler, contact the Vice-Chair.

All parents are encouraged to get involved in scheduling. If you would like to be at school on a particular day (e.g. your child's birthday), or if you would like to select days before the schedule is posted, contact your parent help scheduler in advance to arrange it. Also, please remember to fill out your Parent Helper form — this helps the scheduler know which days you can or cannot volunteer.

On your parent help day, arrive at the scheduled time and take the first few minutes to prepare your snack. Remember that Social Services requires that all fruit and vegetables be washed and cut in the preschool kitchen. As well, please make sure that any other food preparation is done at the school (e.g. cheese cutting). Baked goods from home are fine to bring in, keeping in mind that no nuts of any kind may be used. Please read the ingredient list on packaged food carefully to avoid bringing in anything that contains (or may contain) nut products. Don't worry about what to bring — your best bet is to bring in a simple snack that is nutritious and liked by your own child. Remember that this is a "snack," not "lunch"! Note that water will be provided as the beverage.

Enjoy the time with your child and the class! I guarantee that you'll go home happy and exhausted!

## Committees

Thank you to all for your patience while the volunteer committees were put together this year. Your required participation on a committee is an integral part of our preschool. The willingness and enthusiasm of our parents is an important reason why our program is successful and rewarding for everyone here at Campus Pre-School. Our parent commitment and effort is greatly appreciated.

**Play dough**

3 cups flour

3/4 cup salt

6 tsp cream of tartar

3 cups water

6 Tbsp vegetable oil

food coloring, sprinkles, Kool-Aid

Measure exactly. Combine all ingredients in a large pot. Mix well. Heat over medium heat, stirring constantly until a ball forms (DO NOT OVERCOOK).

Knead dough on lightly floured surface until cool. Place in an airtight container and store in fridge for up to 6 weeks. If it's too oily, knead in more flour or use only 4 Tbsp of vegetable oil next time.

**To all Campus Pre-School Parents, Grandparents and Friends,  
You are cordially invited to our  
Annual Silent Auction  
Friday November 21, 2009  
7:00 – 10:00 pm  
Capitol Hill Community Association  
Come enjoy some delicious appetizers and desserts!  
Hope to see you there!**

**Campus Preschool Newsletters On Line**

In an effort to save paper and decrease the amount of paper coming home, Campus Preschool newsletter will be online. The newsletter is published 5 times per year October, December, February, April and June and will only be available online <http://www.campuspreschool.com>.

If you **DO NOT HAVE** an email account, a copy of the school newsletter can be sent home. Please fill out the form below and send it back to the school. Please remember to call us if your e-mail address changes during the year.

**I do not have an email account and I wish to have a copy of the newsletter sent home with my child:**

**Student Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Teacher:** \_\_\_\_\_

## Child Care Subsidy Program

Alberta Children's Services provides several child care subsidy programs to assist eligible families with costs. Grants are available for Campus Pre-School students who qualify under the Stay-at-Home Subsidy Program. For more information about the subsidy, pick up a brochure at the school, phone the local Child Care Subsidy Office at 297-6100, or visit the website at [www.calgaryandareacfsa.gov.ab.ca](http://www.calgaryandareacfsa.gov.ab.ca).

## Campus Board Members

Position	Name	Email
Chairperson	Maureen McNamee	ianandmo@shaw.ca
Vice-Chair	Carolyn Blasetti	blascr@telus.net
Treasurer	Peggy Cave	mpcave@shaw.ca
Chair of Committees	Megan Van Ham	meganvanham@yahoo.ca
Communications Coordinator	Leslie Allen	leslieja@hotmail.com
Senior Registrar	Claudia Cull	culltc@shaw.ca
Junior Registrar	Liz Hale Boyes	haleboyes@yahoo.com
Fundraising Chairs	Lisa Schaffer & Diane Graca	lcschaffer@shaw.ca di.john@shaw.ca
Secretary	Mai Lee	mai@gobdob.com
Teacher Director	Heidi Dick	heididick@shaw.ca
Teacher	Mary van-Cuyk Aubie	aubies@shaw.ca
Teacher	Sandra Jensen	sljensen4@shaw.ca

Campus News is published five times a year. We welcome submissions on disc or by email by the 15<sup>th</sup> of September, November, January, March and May to Leslie Allen at: [leslieja@hotmail.com](mailto:leslieja@hotmail.com)

### Pssst! Pass on the word about Campus Pre-School!

There is still space available in some classes for 2009/10.

Send e-mail to friends (be sure to give them the Campus website address at [www.campuspreschool.com](http://www.campuspreschool.com)), tell members of your playgroup, and spread the word at swimming lessons and hockey practice. We really appreciate your help!

Newsletters are available online at [www.campuspreschool.com](http://www.campuspreschool.com)