



Our Place



Family Resource and Early Years Centre
A place for Parents and their children
To learn, grow and have fun!

154 Gatewood Rd – Kitchener, ON

Phone: (519) 571-1626

Fax: (519) 571-0621

Email: ourplace@ourplacekw.ca

www.ourplacekw.ca

November Calendar: <http://www.ourplacekw.ca/schedules/november%202011.pdf>

NEWSLETTER

This newsletter will provide you with information about Our Place so that you can be an active part of our community. We want to improve the flow of information and offer better services to everyone at Our Place.

In this newsletter, you will find the many ways that you can help (like being a volunteer in our special events, helping with donations of time, products or money, participating in our fundraising activities), events that are going to happen and information. And we would love to get your feedback!

This will be a monthly email with quick information. If you wish to NOT receive this newsletter, please send an email to wkampijan@ourplacekw.ca to unsubscribe. And if you want more information about any topic, please contact the Centre or visit our website. Please remember to mark this email address as “not spam” to keep getting the newsletter.

NOVEMBER 2011

EVENTS

- **CHILD HEALTH FAIR**

A Child Health Fair is a free community-based event which supports the growth and development of children in the early years (birth to six years old). Children attend with their parent or caregiver (with the parent's consent) to meet with an early child development professional to check their child's developmental progress (e.g., learning, social, emotional, language, and muscle development); Vision, dental care, nutrition and speech skills can also be checked; Families with concerns about their children can be directed to the appropriate services for further assessment or assistance. Often, the person is present at the Fair and families can speak to someone immediately; See

information displays and talk with staff about children's health and community services for families; Light snacks and a play area are available. For more information: <http://chd.region.waterloo.on.ca/en/clinicsClassesFairs/childhealthfairs.asp>

Friday, November 4th

From 9am-1pm.

Location: Our Place (all regular programs are cancelled on this day)

Phone 519-571-1626 to register

- **CHRISTMAS BAZAAR**

This is our most important fundraising event of the year! Get an early start on your Christmas shopping and also help support the Centre. There will be baking sale, craft sale, fun activities for the kids, silent auction and more! You can also support the event by donating baked goods for us to sell at this event. For more information phone Angie at 519-571-1626 ext. 33

Saturday, November 12th

From 8am to Noon

Location: Our Place Gym – please enter using the gym doors facing the parking lot

INFO

- Near the front entrance, we have mounted hooks for parents/caregivers to secure their strollers. These hooks are mounted on the wall near the floor where the stroller parking is located. You must bring your own locks to secure your stroller as we do not provide. Thanks to the Dyck family for making this happen!
- Remember to bring indoor shoes for kids and adults! You and your children must have dry footwear at all times. Coats and wet footwear should be left on the racks provided.
- Registration for December programs will be on November 28th.
- Outdoor Clothing Exchange: There is a variety of seasonal outdoor clothing for children and adults available throughout the year at the “Our Place Closet”. All are welcome to take any items that they are in need for. In order for this exchange to continue, we ask that everyone please give any items that they no longer need for someone else to use. Donations accepted: Winter coats & boots, hats, mitts, and snowpants. The Closet is located at the far end of the centre near the couches & table.

DONATIONS

- Sneezing season is back! We need boxes of Kleenex donated to help offset the amount we use during this season!
- Help keep our community warm. We need winter clothes for kids and adults (coats, shoes, boots, hats, mittens, snowpants etc.)

- And don't forget that any other items needed are posted on the Fundraising board in the kitchen.
- The **Christmas Gift Drive** is almost upon us! This event is sponsored by the Family Outreach Program at Our Place and it provides gifts to families who are experiencing hardships at this time of the year ... all children in our community deserve a special gift at this time of the year!

How it works: You select a snowman from the bulletin board in the hallway. The snowman will have details about the individual on it i.e. age & gender. You then register this snowman with the front reception desk – so that we know the tag has been selected.

You then bring your gift to the front office with the snowman attached. Please do NOT wrap your gift, instead bring it in a gift bag. The cost of each gift should be around \$15. Please, remember to include batteries if the gift requires it.

We do accept any general toy/gift donations or any gently used toys would be appreciated – please let the front office know when dropping the items off that they are for the Christmas Gift Drive.

FEEDBACK

- We need feedback on several issues, so each month we'll ask for your opinion on a different topic. This month we would like to know your ideas and thoughts about this newsletter. We are trying to make this simple and quick to help our community to get to know all that Our Place has to offer and how you can be an active part of it. Please send us an email with your feedback to parentcouncil@ourplacekw.ca
- Your chance to have a say! Until Nov 4th Our Place is asking everyone to participate in a short survey to get your feedback on our programs and services. The survey takes less than 15 minutes and all responses are confidential. If you participate you can enter your name to win a basket filled with fun and exciting things for your family! Unfortunately this is not available online, you must visit the Centre to complete the survey.
- We always welcome feedback from participants on programs, needs or any aspect of your experience at Our Place. Please feel free to share feedback with any staff member or email to dsnyder@ourplacekw.ca Remember Our Place is your place!

SAVE THE DATE

- Our Place Family Christmas Party
Friday, December 16th