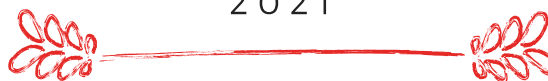




SPRING NEWSLETTER

2021



*Every child is a
different kind of
flower, that
altogether make
this world a
beautiful garden!*



Welcome Spring!

And Welcome to our Spring Newsletter!

Spring brings with it warmer weather, longer days, budding trees and a sense of renewal and rejuvenation! After a long winter, and an even LONGER year of COVID, we at Kids Country Club welcome and embrace this new season! We know it won't magically erase the challenging times we are living through, but it will allow us opportunities to get outside to enjoy fresh air, sunshine, and fun activities with our kids! We are so happy to be able to continue to provide respite during these times and encourage families to reach out with any questions, or to



learn more, about the many safety protocols we've implemented to keep our staff and children safe during COVID. For those of our families who aren't currently joining us for visits, we encourage you to review and sign up for our monthly off-site support services. These have been specifically designed to support you, our families, during these unprecedented times. Simply read on to learn more about both our off-site services and our COVID safety protocols. And, please remember, you're not alone! We care, and are here to support you!

Supporting Our Families

NOTE FROM OUR KCC STAFF

We hope everyone is enjoying the fresh weather and getting outside for some good ole Vitamin D. Spring brings a wealth of new activities for staff to do with all our favourite kiddos. Walks alone are such a welcomed activity after being locked inside for the last few months (or year...depending on how you look at it.) The staff at both homes are jumping at the bit to see all our families, and cannot wait until we can provide more respite. Until then, We wanted to highlight other services we are offering to try and support you!



MEAL SUPPORTS

Don't have time or desire to make dinner? Or does the idea of overpaying for take-out again make you want to pull your hair out? We have just the thing for you! For a nominal cost let our staff prepare homemade meals for your family. Every month we are offering a selection of family meals! Frozen favourites you can easily pop in your oven. Or "just the Prep" quick and easy meal kits. Also, there are sweet treats for you to enjoy either "Make at Home" or "Made for You" if baking isn't your forte.



PET SUPPORTS

Does going to Wal-Mart on a Saturday afternoon to pick up a bag of Fido's brown pellets sound like torture? Or, are the dogs just driving you mad for a walk that you don't have time to take them on! Let our team help!



VIRTUAL SUPPORTS

Do you need someone to talk to? Does your kid just want to talk about TikTok till your ears fall off. Or do they miss story time with staff members? Every month we have virtual meets set up for just these activities.



GROCERY & LAUNDRY

Need help getting through Mount Dirty Socks? Or is your week just so crammed you can't make it to the grocery store? We can help! At the moment we are operating under a drop-off/pick-up setup but we hope to be able to provide pick-up/delivery services soon. If this is something that interests you, please let us know in the monthly menu survey.



HOMEWORK HELP

Has it been a hot minute since you've done trigonometry? Thankfully, we here at KCC have a diverse staff with strengths in many subjects. If you are having difficulty, or lack time or resources to provide assistance in your child's homework, give us a shout! We are also happy to help with one on one support, or supplies if needed for items such as printing and laminating.

We the staff understand that the biggest support we could provide you is respite, However, we want you to know we are here for you and your family and want to lend a helping hand in any we can! We cannot wait to see each and every family again and miss all of you terribly! Wishing you all the BEST! -- **KCC STAFF**



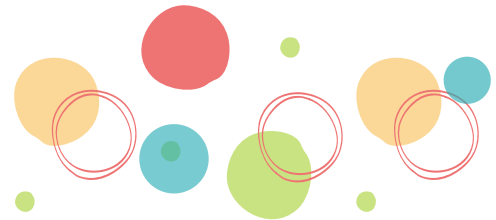
Sending Wishes of Love & Happiness!

Our team at Kids Country Club has been graced with the wonderful opportunity to meet this very special young lady. Over the years that she has been with the organization, we have all enjoyed watching her grow and become an adult, We have had such fun together, she holds a special place in our hearts! While we will miss the sunshine and light she brings to any room she enters, we are also excited to see what this next chapter of her life will uncover.

It's not good bye but good luck, we can't wait to hear all about her new adventures, friendships and shenanigans"



*Our friend - cherish your
yesterdays, dream your tomorrows
and fully live your today's!*



Constraints Drive Change and Innovation....

SHERRY GROULX, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

I read this statement last week from an article in the Harvard Business Review. I have to say, it stopped me in my tracks, and as I let that sink in, I thought, you've got that right. **"The broad impact of COVID has made life and its challenges, unlike anything we have ever been through."**

While I understand we are all in this together, the struggle for some is much greater. I repeatedly hear from families, "we just keep going, waiting for things to change, what else can we do". Everyone is in extended mode, going through the motions, exhausted and tired.

Never has it been as hard to watch those so important to us struggle without the ability to help more. We would like to say to all our families, we are with you, we see you and we acknowledge your struggles, we care and are here for you! We would like to continue to encourage you to reach out if you need help or even just someone to talk to, we have found that through discussion we have discovered ways or connections that can and do help.

For my staff, I would like to say just how proud I am of you! You have truly risen to the occasion, your tenacity and creativity have amazed me. Advocacy for our families and children occurs at every level of our organization, I believe we are living our Mission more completely than at any other time.



To our Board, our Donors and Ministry, thank you for continuing to support us through these challenging times, we need you more than ever and you have been there for us.

Lastly, I circle back to the wonderful change and innovation that we have achieved together and a quote to encourage.

"Spring will come and so will happiness. Hold on. Life will get warmer."

- Anita Krizzam

I look forward to warmer days and times together. Be safe, and take good care!

Sherry Groulx

Spring Scavenger Hunt

GET OUTSIDE & HAVE FUN!

Getting outside for exercise, vitamin D and fresh air is good for your body and mind! So, to help you enjoy this beautiful spring weather, we've shared a fun Scavenger Hunt! Simply print off the checklist then head out to your backyard, favourite trail, or around your neighbourhood and see what items you can find!

Spring Scavenger Hunt



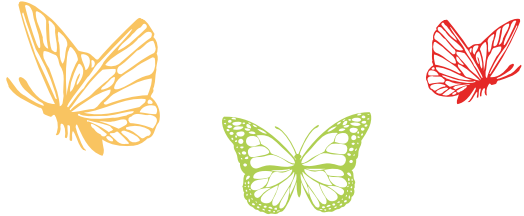
<input type="checkbox"/> Bird 	<input type="checkbox"/> Ant 
<input type="checkbox"/> Mushroom 	<input type="checkbox"/> Sprout 
<input type="checkbox"/> Twig 	<input type="checkbox"/> Spider Web 
<input type="checkbox"/> Rock 	<input type="checkbox"/> Butterfly 
<input type="checkbox"/> Feather 	<input type="checkbox"/> Puddle 
<input type="checkbox"/> Worm 	<input type="checkbox"/> Flower 
<input type="checkbox"/> Brown Leaf 	<input type="checkbox"/> Ladybug 
<input type="checkbox"/> Green Leaf 	<input type="checkbox"/> Bee 

Imagilane



COVID & Our Program

VANESSA HEWITT, RN



Dear Family, Friends and Supporters,

As the weather turns warmer, the birds start chirping "hello" and the flowers and trees are blooming, we know that we are heading into the spring season. While it may be disheartening to be living round 2 of a pandemic spring, I'm grateful for some positive differences from this time last year. There aren't many, but holding onto positives in these trying times is important for our mental health. We have seen the rollout of vaccines, the approval to remain open for (reduced) respite, even during the stay-at-home orders and school closures, and we have access to much-needed PPE and sanitizing agents. We've also been able to offer creative supports to our families to try to assist during these times of reduced on-site respite. I know that the negative impact of this long-term pandemic outweighs any positives, but they give hope of more positive moves forward to come. We have worked diligently with our Public Health Units, MCCSS representatives, and our service networks to ensure that the limited respite we can provide is done with the safety of all in mind. This is our number one priority.

Respite looks very different during these times. Our staff in masks, face shields and additional PPE as needed. It is one respite child at a time, very stringent cleaning and sanitizing, along with temperature checks and the screening of all caregivers who are unable to come fully into the home during dropoff or pickup. These are some of the many important and necessary changes implemented to keep everyone safe! However, the thing that has not changed, is that our staff continue to give our children the best care they can despite these limitations. They have been creatively resilient in ensuring not only medical needs are met, but also psychosocial needs- meaning the children still have some fun! To see more of the fun they have, please check out our Facebook page and website blog. I know for myself, when I see one of our children smiling, despite these difficult times, it warms my heart and reminds me that within so many negatives we still do have positives.

Thank you to everyone for your support, patience, and continued faith in our safe program. We hope to see you all soon. Until then, we will continue to celebrate the positives and strive to create more for you.

Stay safe,

Vanessa Hewitt, RN
Clinical Manager



thank
you ♥

WE MAKE A LIVING BY WHAT WE GET, BUT A LIFE WITH WHAT WE GIVE.

~ WINSTON CHURCHILL

MAY 9-16

HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS WEEK

THANK YOU TO OUR KIDS COUNTRY CLUB TEAM AND ALL HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS FOR EVERYTHING YOU DO!

DRIVE A CAR SUPPORT OUR KIDS

TEST DRIVE
for Charity



Cambridge Centre Honda is committed to giving back to our community of friends and neighbours!

For the month of May Cambridge Centre Honda will **donate \$10 per customer test drive to Kids Country Club!**

Present this "Test Drive for Charity voucher" to your Sales and Leasing Consultant, before you take your test drive, and Cambridge Centre Honda will increase the donation to \$20!

Visit us today to drive a great car, and show your support!



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Respite Care for Medically
Fragile Children



We *Love* what we do!

MESSAGES FROM OUR FAMILIES!

Thank you so much for your kindness, help and advocacy. We truly appreciate everything you do for our daughter and our family!



She really enjoyed her visit a couple of weeks ago and it was so good for her mental health! She smiled all evening when she came home and was still smiling the next day. The isolation of the pandemic has been so hard on her so a change of scenery and seeing some of the folks from KCC was just the mental boost she needed.



Please know that we think of everyone often, miss the wonderful respite you provide and look forward to seeing everyone again.



Laugh OUT **Loud**

HOW EXCITED WAS THE GARDENER ABOUT SPRING?

WHY DID THE GARDENER PLANT HIS SEEDS IN THE POND?

WHAT DO YOU CALL A BUNNY WITH FLEAS?

So excited he wet his plants!

He wanted to grow watermelons.

Bugs Bunny!

