

THE VOICE



May was filled with fun and excitement!

Important Dates

1. Friday, June 9th: IFSP Meetings / Parent Teacher Conferences, No classes.
2. Thursday, June 15th: Welcome to the ELP Day!
3. Thursday, June 22nd: Spirit Day!
4. Wednesday, June 28th: Last Day of classes (half-day, pick up at 12:00), and End of Year Show!



A Message From our Executive Director

Dear families, friends, and staff,

We are entering the final month of the year, and it will be another busy month for our programs. It's hard to believe how quickly June has arrived. This month, our centre-based classes are embarking on exciting adventures with captivating themes like Indigenous People's Day, Beach and Ocean, Camping, Canada Day, and Father's Day.

We're delighted to announce that on June 15th, we will be hosting our Welcome to the ELP Day. It is a special event where incoming Early Learning Program children from our First Words program visit the centre to experience their new classroom for the upcoming year. This allows transitioning First Words families to meet their teachers and staff, fostering connections and engagement within our community.

We want to express our heartfelt gratitude to everyone who attended our 60th Anniversary Celebration on Saturday, May 27th. Your presence and unwavering support made the day truly special. We hope you had a fantastic time, enjoying delicious food and engaging in activities.

A big thank you goes out to all our wonderful volunteers, including staff, friends, family, and alumni, as well as the teams from RBC and Raymond James. Your generous contributions of time and assistance played a crucial role in making the event a great success.

We also extend a special thank you to our MLA, Adrian Dix, and our MP, Don Davies, for joining us and showing support. Your presence meant a lot, and we greatly appreciate your involvement.

Once again, we extend our gratitude to our incredible CHSC community. We look forward to celebrating more successes in the future with all of you!

Warm regards,



Dawn McKenna
Executive Director



Celebrating Community Helpers: A Journey of Discovery and Gratitude

Last month, our centre-based children embarked on an exciting journey centred around the theme of "Community Helpers." Our goal was to immerse our young learners in a world of exploration and discovery, spotlighting the diverse careers people hold in our community. Through engaging activities and discussions, we aimed to foster an appreciation for jobs, tools, uniforms, and transportation used by community helpers.

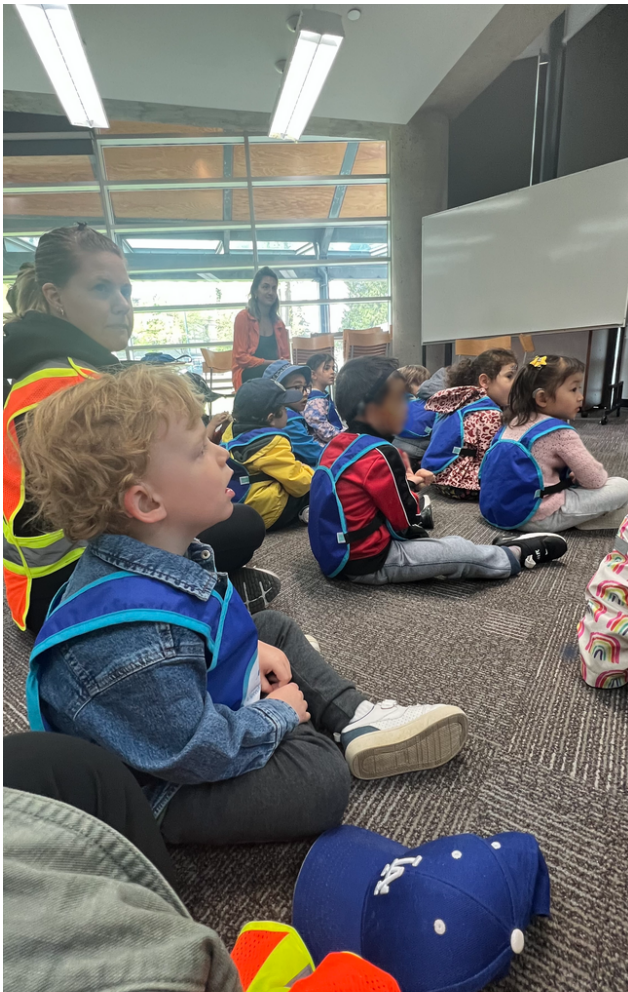
We were privileged to host three exceptional guests who made a lasting impact on our students, bringing the concept of community helpers to life. The Vancouver Police Department's Special Emergency Response Team added excitement and curiosity to our exploration. Our young learners experienced the team's crucial work through interactive demonstrations, witnessing advanced technologies like drones in action. They also learned about robotic gear and had a special encounter with Jade, a working police dog, gaining a deeper understanding and respect for this specialized team.



Celebrating Community Helpers: A Journey of Discovery and Gratitude Continued...

During our visit from local firefighters, the excitement continued to grow. Dressed in their distinctive uniforms, they shared their experiences and responsibilities as community helpers. The highlight of the visit was when Sparky the fire safety dog made a special appearance. Our children were thrilled to meet Sparky, who taught them important lessons about fire safety in a fun and engaging way. Sparky's visit added an extra dose of excitement and left a lasting impression on our youngsters.

On another day staff organized a field trip to the local library. The children met with Jamie the Librarian who sang some songs and read some stories. Jamie then led a felt board story and song with the children taking turns picking felt pieces to change the song's lyrics. Afterwards, the children had some time to look at books, and some classes used their library cards to check out some books to bring back to the Centre.



Celebrating Community Helpers: A Journey of Discovery and Gratitude Continued...

Lastly, our children had the pleasure of welcoming Mr Johal, a construction professional, who brought his excavator to teach the children about construction work. This special visit allowed our children to learn about the different tools used in construction and witness the excavator in action. They were captivated by the power and precision of this essential construction tool, gaining valuable insights into the process of building and creating.

We extend heartfelt gratitude to the Vancouver Police Department's Special Emergency Response Unit, our local firefighters, Jamie the Librarian, and Mr Johal for making a significant impact on our exploration of community helpers. We encourage parents and caregivers to continue the conversation at home, expanding on the visits and sparking discussions with their children. Explore different jobs, tools, uniforms, and transportation used by community helpers. Help children develop vocabulary by asking open-ended questions and encouraging them to describe what they've learned.

Thank you for your unwavering support as we nurture our young learners. Let's continue exploring the captivating world of community helpers and empower our children to build a caring and safe community together.



Embracing Nature's Wonders: The Journey of Caterpillars to Butterflies

Throughout the month of May, our centre-based classes embarked on an extraordinary journey, witnessing the miracle of life and transformation firsthand. We had the privilege of nurturing and raising Painted Lady caterpillars, a delightful species known for their enchanting metamorphosis. This experience allowed our young learners to witness the incredible process of caterpillars growing and transforming into exquisite butterflies. As the month came to a close, our children eagerly gathered outside to bid farewell to their newfound friends, releasing them into the wild.

After witnessing the transformation of caterpillars into butterflies, the kids gained a deeper understanding of the important role these delicate creatures play in our environment. Butterflies, including the Painted Lady species, serve as pollinators, aiding in the reproduction of numerous plants and flowers. As they flutter from one blossom to another, they transfer pollen grains, facilitating the fertilization process and enabling the production of fruits, seeds, and new plant life.

By releasing the butterflies into the wild, our children actively contributed to the ecological balance of our surroundings. The vibrant butterflies, now free to explore and seek nourishment, will continue their essential work as pollinators, playing a vital role in the natural cycle of life. Their presence enhances the beauty of our gardens and parks, bringing joy and a sense of wonder to all who encounter them.



60th Anniversary Celebration

On May 27th the community came together to help us celebrate our 60th Anniversary. It was an unforgettable experience, bringing together more than 300 attendees, including current and former students, families, staff, Board and many from the community.

The air was filled with joy and excitement as bouncy castles and games dotted the vibrant venue, inviting laughter and cheerful screams from both children and adults. Tents provided shade and accommodated volunteers manning the various information tables, including logo'd items for sale, face painting, and a caricaturist. Music played throughout the day and a juggler provided children with some exciting entertainment.

Three food trucks lined the area, offering delicious pizza, hot dogs and more, plus a wonderful assortment of ice creams and frozen fruit bars for dessert. With introductions from the Board Chair, Andrea Manchon, our local MLA, Adrian Dix, and local MP, Don Davies, helped us celebrate with the official cutting of the cake, and spoke to the attendees reflecting on the remarkable journey of the organization. From start to finish, the jubilant atmosphere was filled with joy, camaraderie, and an abundance of fun, marking 60 years of success and six decades of cherished memories.

Thank you to Mr. Dix and Mr. Davies, to the volunteer teams from RBC and Raymond James, to our staff and Board, and all the many volunteers who helped make the day a great success!



60th Anniversary Celebration



Book Review: We Are Water Protectors

Written by Carole Lindstrom, Illustrated by Michaela Goade

"We Are Water Protectors" by Carole Lindstrom is a special picture book that teaches young readers about safeguarding our planet's most valuable resource: water. With beautiful illustrations by Michaela Goade and engaging storytelling, this book delivers a meaningful message about caring for our environment.

The story follows a brave Indigenous girl who becomes a water protector, like many in Indigenous communities who defend their lands and water sources. Through her inspiring journey, the girl teaches us about the sacredness of water and the interconnectedness of nature.

Lindstrom's storytelling is captivating and easy to understand. Her words flow smoothly, evoking emotions and prompting us to consider our role in protecting the Earth. The book also highlights the cultural and spiritual importance of water in Indigenous communities, fostering appreciation for different perspectives.

Michaela Goade's stunning illustrations bring the story to life, showcasing the beauty of nature and the bond between humans, animals, and the environment. The artwork reinforces the book's central message.

With Indigenous Peoples Day approaching on June 21st, "We Are Water Protectors" serves as a timely reminder of water's significance in Indigenous cultures. It encourages understanding, respect for diverse traditions, and motivates action to protect our planet.

Big Ideas:

1. Discuss why water is essential for our bodies, plants, and animals.
 - Encourage turning off the faucet while brushing teeth to save water.
 - Teach watering plants using a cup or watering can instead of a hose.
2. Environmental stewardship:
 - Talk about keeping our surroundings clean and free from litter.
 - Encourage picking up trash and throwing it away properly.
3. Empathy and inclusivity:
 - Discuss different cultures and their beliefs about water.
 - Encourage kindness and inclusivity during playtime.
 - Help them understand how their actions can impact others and the environment.



Beach Day Scavenger Hunts

by Rita Francis (SLP)



Beach Scavenger Hunts

Are you heading to the beach with your child? Bring along these scavenger hunt pages and try to spot all of the nouns and action words! Your child can cross them off as you go. Can you find them all?



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