

Our JUNIOR KINDERGARTEN (JK) Program

If you are looking for a high caliber, warm, safe JK program you have found it here right here at the Thomas & Marjorie Schwartz Preschool Centre. Our JK program offers on-going opportunities for your child to thrive and learn preparing them for Senior Kindergarten. Through low teacher to children ratio (3 staff with a maximum of 20 children) and a program that has been carefully thought out both for social and academic growth, we are able to offer children an experience that will give them tools to assist them throughout their education.

Our Philosophy: Through extensive research it has been determined that children learn best through inquiry and experience. The activities and experiences that are presented to the children are all done with intention, to deliver a program to children that encourage them to grow and develop in a very positive way. Children are constructivist learners and although need some guidance, have the ability to learn through experiencing the world around them. We encourage families to be involved in their children's growth and education.

Social/Emotional Growth: Our day is filled with activities that assist your child in building their self-esteem, learning to respect others and developing a sense of being kind to others. Through the **Peek a Pack** program children will learn through characters, stories and activities about being empathetic, honest, and respectful amongst many other themes. These skills are also demonstrated throughout the day on an on-going basis.

Cognitive: Children love to learn and we are here to assist with giving them every opportunity to learn and grow on a daily basis. From the moment your child enters the classroom they will be surrounded by ways to encourage their development of numeracy and literacy skills. Through observations, the teachers will get an understanding of the children's interests and encourage them to explore and learn more about their curiosities. Stories are written, menus are made, graphs are filled in, books are read, crafts are made and much more, to offer the children as much as possible

based on their interests. When children are interested in an idea they are much more apt to learn and understand. Through a program called **Learning Without Tears** children will develop their fine motor skills, essential for printing and drawing. They will also learn letter formation, letter sounds, beginning sounds and word recognition if they are ready. They will also learn about number formation and understanding of what numbers represent. Children will be working in small groups so that they can concentrate on what is being offered to them. Nothing will be forced on a child. They will learn at their own pace as all children develop different skills at different times. The program is all implemented through fun and exciting opportunities so that no child will feel intimidated.

In Conclusion: We are confident that you will be totally satisfied with our JK program. Give your child the opportunity to grow, develop and learn by enrolling them in our JK program at the Thomas & Marjorie Schwartz Preschool Centre.