



Fall Newsletter

Message from Director

Happy Hauntings to all our ghouls and goblins!

I hope this newsletter finds your families all in good health and enjoying the change in season. The team at St. Gabriel Child Care Centres are embracing the crisp air and fall foliage. Follow us on Facebook and Instagram to see all the happenings. We are excited to see what creatures, royalty, community helpers and celebrities will grace our halls in the coming week. We ask parents, should you provide a loot bag for any Halloween parties please do not provide anything edible. Should you send a loot bag they will be sent home through the screeners that are wearing full ppe. As the weather turns, we ask the children to come prepared to be outdoors for a minimum of one hour in the morning and one hour in the afternoons. Once the wet weather approaches, we will require indoor shoes.

This September the Before and After School Programs experienced some lightening up on restrictions and I am happy to report that the childcare will also have some loosening. In coming weeks children will see a return of carpets and soft spaces in the classroom as well as cloth clothing on the dolls and a return of some group sensory activities. A focus on hand hygiene will continue as well as our morning screenings, follow up calls, and temperature recording. We continue to ask for your cooperation and transparency to support the wellness of us all.

COVID-19 Screening Update

Thank you to all for the patience and transparency you have demonstrated over the last few months. We have had many changes to our screening since our year began and yet another is on its way.

York Region has shared communication with us that the revised Ontario screening can now be used for the childcare programs. The Ontario Screening tool is available electronically and, in many languages, should you require it. We will be editing our screening tool to use the Ontario language.

I'm sure this will be music to many parents' ears. Runny nose has been taken off the covid screening tool. We continue to monitor the health of all our children and will follow our pre covid policies regarding runny noses. Children can experience a runny nose and still be transmitting an infection to others. Since they are sick and could potentially transmit this respiratory infection to other children in the centre (i.e., flu), they are advised to remain home but do not need to get tested for Covid 19 if experiencing only a runny nose.

To clarify, 24 hours starts from the time the parent starts to see improvements with runny noses in their child. For example, a child is sent home on Monday with a runny nose. On Tuesday, the parent notes the runny nose is gone by 9:00 am and no other symptoms. The 24-hour clock now starts and the child if the runny nose does not return and no other symptoms present, can return to the centre on Wednesday which is 24 hours from the start of the improvement. If you notice an improvement on the following Monday, then the 24-hour clock begins, and the child would return to the centre on Tuesday morning.

The 24-hour clock does not start from the time the child is dismissed from the centre. It is from the time the

In the case of GI symptoms, it is a Covid -19 symptom so the child would have to get tested with a PCR test. If positive, remains home for 10 full days and on the 11th day returns if not experiencing any symptoms or symptoms improved. If not tested, remains home for 10 full days, and returns on the 11th day if no symptoms/symptoms improved. If PCR test is negative, and have no other symptoms, it is 48 hours with no GI symptoms or improved - no loose stools/vomiting. The 48 hours clock would start (if tested negative for Covid-19) on the first day with no loose stool/vomiting. For example, that could be 5 days from the last day at the Centre.

If your child is ill, they must not attend childcare.

In the case of diarrhea or vomiting, bowel movements must return to normal for a minimum of 48 hours and child must be well and able to have normal food consumption.

Should your child have a runny nose with fever or cough, this will be treated as a covid symptom due to the multiple symptoms.

Our goal is to keep all infection out of the centre whether it be GI, covid or any other infection. We ask that your child stay home when not well. **If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact health connections 1-800-361-5653**

Board of Directors Update

As you know we will be having our Annual General Meeting on November 17th, 2021. If you have not received any of the emails in this regard, please call us 905-850-3358 so that we can update our contact info on file. If you are unable to attend virtually then we ask that you provide your proxy to another parent or board position. We are also looking for representation of the membership to sit on our Board of Directors. See all the links below for more information. Your screeners will be checking in with you over the coming weeks survey parent attendance to ensure we have quorum. Thank you in advance to all of you that will come out to join us on November 17th, 2021.

Join us on November 17th, 2021, at 7:00pm at

https://www.google.com/url?q=https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88101630012?pwd%3DUXE4SnZCd1ZvemVFZDBVZFg4aG15Zz09&sa=D&source=calendar&ust=1634992560823187&usg=AOvVaw3iFFHWc4vMFP_tgMqXFBN

If you are unable to attend, please provide a parent who is attending, or a board position your proxy to represent you at the meeting. Fill out the form at this link or ask for a hard copy with the screener at your child's program.

<https://secureservercdn.net/198.71.233.83/d9a.f73.myftpupload.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Proxy-policy-and-Declaration-2021.pdf>

Are you interested in volunteering as a representative of the parent body on our Board of Directors? Fill out the application on the link below.

<https://secureservercdn.net/198.71.233.83/d9a.f73.myftpupload.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Draft-Board-of-Directors-application-2021-St-Gabriel-Child-Care-Centres-draft-Sept-29.pdf> If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call 905-856-3358.

We would like to welcome back to all our returning and new St. Gregory families.

We would like to start off by formally introducing ourselves as your new Before & After School teachers. My name is Ms. Rosa, and I am the new site supervisor. I have been employed with St. Gabriel Child Care Centres for the past six years and grown to understand that each child is unique in their own way and will learn at their own pace. The children are an inspiration, and I am looking forward to working with your children as they learn, share, laugh and grow.

My name is Ms. Selina, I have been working with St. Gabriel for the past five years. My love and passion for working with children has allowed me to find new creative ways to enhance their development. I am looking forward to getting to know all the children this year.

My name is Ms. Melanie, I have been working with St. Gabriel for the past year. I love working with children and I also enjoy creating a safe, comfortable, and warm environment for the children to explore freely at their own pace.

This past month we have been getting to know all the children and have been able to learn about their likes and interests. The weather has been so beautiful which has allowed us to utilize the outdoors as much as possible. We have noticed that the children love spending time outdoors playing soccer, basketball, tag, and pretend play.

Our ideas for the month of October will include lots of Halloween crafts and activities such as glow in the dark slime, cupcake decorating and a scary story competition, cotton ball ghosts, craving pumpkins and a mummy sack race.

As we approach into November and the Christmas season, we will be writing letters to Santa, enjoying a spirit week including PJ Day, Christmas socks and tie Day, Christmas movies and lots of baking!

We look forward to amazing school year 😊



October 21 st , 2021	ECE Appreciation Day
October 22 th , 2021	Last day to register for PA Day November 19 th , 2021
Week of November 1st, 2021	Date that confirmation email will be sent out to families regarding PA day meeting minimum enrollment
November 12, 2021	AGM proxy forms due if family is not attending
November 4 th , 2021	Last day to submit Board Application
November 12 th , 2021	Payment for PA day taken
November 17 th , 2021	Annual General Meeting
November 19 th , 2021	PA day Camp (should minimum enrollment be met)
November 28 th , 2021	Last day to register for Xmas Camp Dec 20 to 23
December 1 st , 2021	Confirmation email to be sent out for Xmas Camp
December 15 th , 2021	Payment to be taken for Xmas Camp
December 20 to December 23, 2021	Xmas Camp (should minimum enrolment be met)
December 24 th , 2021	Child Care open from 7:30 to 12:00 only
December 27, 2021	Programs closed for Dec 25 th Statutory Holiday
December 28 th , 2021	Programs Closed for Dec 26 th , Statutory Holiday
December 29 th , 2021	Programs Closed for St Gabriel Professional Development Day
December 31 st , 2021	Programs Closed for January 1 st , statutory Holiday as per survey results
January 3, 2021	All Programs Open