

OSCAR Newsletter

Email: info@camroseoscar.ca / www.camrosefcss.ca

Phone: 780-672-0141 / **Address:** 4821 - 51 St. Camrose AB



Looking Ahead to Important Dates to Remember

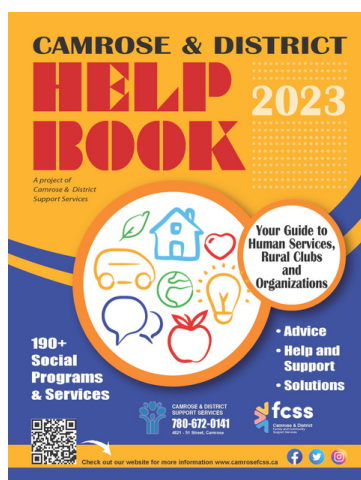
- January 4 First Day Back to School – OSCAR Open
 - January 11 Early Dismissal – OSCAR starts at lunch dismissal
 - January 20 December Fees DUE
 - January 20 February Calendar DUE
 - January 31 CLOSED – NO School and NO OSCAR
-
- February 8 Early Dismissal – OSCAR starts at lunch dismissal
 - February 15-16 CLOSED – NO School and NO OSCAR
 - February 19 CLOSED – NO School and NO OSCAR - Happy Family Day
 - February 20 January Fees DUE
 - February 20 March Calendar DUE
 - February 26 CLOSED - NO School and NO OSCAR



Happy New Year

The Help Book – A Guide to Human Services is also available online in the form of a searchable database: www.camrosefcss.ca/helpbook/

The 2023 Help Books are available at Camrose & District Family & Community Support Services Office 4821 - 51 St., Camrose AB



We share reminders, family community events and workshops on Facebook Search for: OSCAR Child Care



What's Happening at the Programs

CHESTER RONNING:



Happy New Year and welcome back everyone, we hope everyone had a safe and Happy Holiday! December was filled with so much Christmas spirit as the Christmas season approached. The children were busy all December making Christmas crafts. The hand stitching Christmas projects were a success and the children have asked to make some stuffed animals which we will be attempting in January.

Our youth leaders and helpers are doing such a great job in presenting their ideas to the staff, planning their activities and learning how to engage the children in the activities. The children are showing some amazing leadership skills and are enjoying the opportunity to teach others something new.

We are being more diligent with hand washing and cleaning as flu season continues. Many of the children and staff have been ill and we are teaching the children how to practice self care when they are not feeling their best. Please ensure that your children have warm clothing to wear as we will be going outside. We have been so fortunate to have such mild weather, but know that can change at any moment.

We continue to practice kindness in January especially during times of conflict.

Staff are working with the children to support them to learn how to communicate kindly with each other, listen to the other person's point of view and how to resolve their conflicts using effective communication.

We are making some changes to our space by creating a homework table to complete their homework. We have also created a quiet corner for children to go when they need to self regulate and just need a few minutes by themselves. Staff are close by to support the children when they need a little extra one on one time.

We are looking forward to see what our Youth Leaders and Helpers come up with in the new year. January will be busy with new crafts, activities and sports games. We want to make sure that the children enjoy themselves at OSCAR.

**Space
month
was
fantastic!**

What's Happening at the Programs

JACK STUART:

We have been so excited that the snow has finally fallen. We have spent our days playing in the snow and building forts outside. This last month the kids favorite week was the OSCAR world records week. Together we made a paper chain that spanned larger than 150 paper chain links. We had fun building it and measuring different things in the room. We talked about how OSCAR together is like a chain because we are a giant long team. We also had some OSCAR world records broken on tallest towers, quickest cup stacking and fastest car ramp race.

We have also been having fun getting into the holiday spirit. You may have noticed there are many ornament crafts that we have been working on and taking home. We have been getting into the festive spirit by making elves and snowman crafts. We also enjoyed making cards for our loved ones. During snack time we have loved hearing everyone's different holiday traditions.

You may have heard from your kids that we have transitioned into the library for the rest of the year until Christmas break because of the Christmas concert practice. We have been hearing from the children have been working very hard at practicing their songs. The transition has gone very smoothly and we are very impressed and how flexible the kids have been to the new change. Give them a pat on the back from the OSCAR staff because change is never easy!

As we prepare for the Christmas break, we plan on having a Christmas party on the last day of school where we will watch Polar Express and play fun Christmas games and crafts.

For the new years, we plan on making OSCAR new year's resolutions on how we can have the most fun in the new year and care for our friends around us in the program. After spending so much time in OSCAR, sometimes we can forget some of the values and rules that we live by, so we plan to review and talk about them. We also plan to make kindness goals and talk about how we can best be kind to our family and friends in the new year with a fresh start. We hope to write these out and post them on our board to remind us for the rest of the year our goal is to make people smile! In the new year we hope to be able to continue to do lots of crafts, paint, color, draw, build, and create as much as we possibly can! We also hope to continue to exercise and move our bodies and continue to play our laugh filled endless games of tag everyday!



**Having
fun
making
holiday
creations**

What's Happening at the Programs

SPARLING:

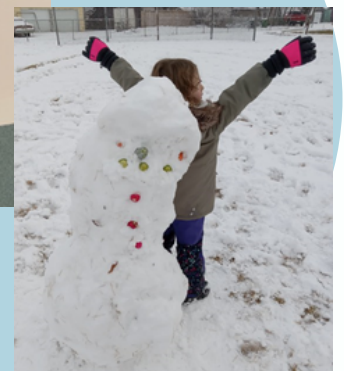
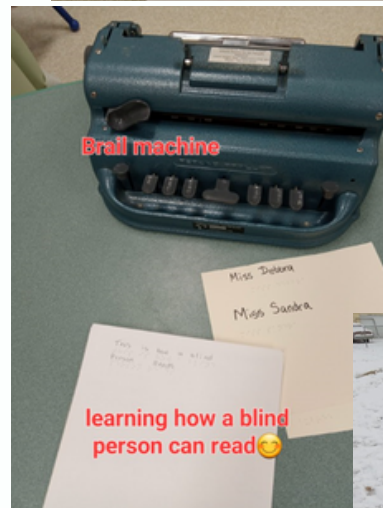
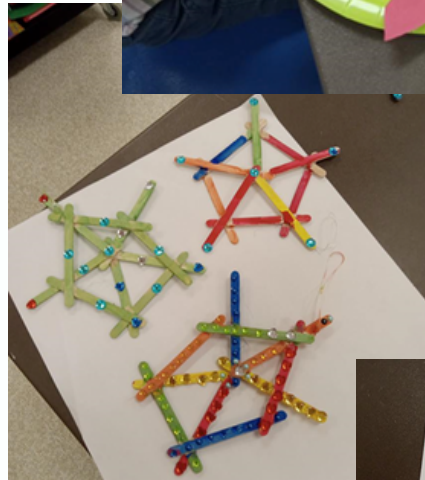
Welcome back from what we hope was an enjoyable holiday season. We are sure that after the business of the holiday season, we are all ready to get back to some type of routine.

December was a fantastic month! It was so wonderful to hear from parents and their children of the love they have for our Sparling OSCAR program and as some of you know, we might be making it a little too much fun, when they want to stay and continue building or creating the project their working on! It certainly brings a lot of joy to our hearts.

We have been extremely busy having fun outdoors, making gigantic snowmen, playing games and enjoying the park equipment. The children are so creative in organizing and playing group games. The room has been filled with excitement and anticipation, as we eagerly got ready for Christmas. We made and experimented with colors and decorations, as we made snowflakes, wreaths, Christmas gifts and cards.

Of course, we are excited to start the New Year with new ideas and creativity. We will start it with the fascinating theme of Magnetism and follow that by exploring our environment by gaining knowledge and understanding of Animals in Canada. We have so much to look forward too!

Happy New Years,
Ms. Sandra and Ms. Debbra



outdoor & indoor fun

What's Happening at the Programs

ECOLE SIFTON:

We would like to welcome everyone back and hope that you all had a fantastic winter break. We look forward to hearing all the stories from your children.

December was a very festive time at OSCAR. The children showed great bravery around their peers while presenting all their fabulous show-and-tell items. Staff have noticed how well the children come together during snack time to build relationships with the staff and their peers. They are becoming very comfortable with one another as they immerse themselves in lots of positive conversations. The book corner continues to play a very important part for many children to spend time with staff and other children as they read together. OSCAR children also contributed very well in the making of the Community Cards for the senior citizens around the community.

It was great to finally get some snow on the ground, which excited the children as they built snow forts. When we went outside, the children came together to play many games of hide-and-seek, and sardines. Soccer, Basketball and playing Red Light/Green Light were some of the many group games that the children played in the gym. Your children showed so much creativity while they played at the many manipulative centers, the crafts that we made like painting snowmen using cotton balls and making many diverse penguins of all shapes and sizes. January will be a busy month with many activities to do inside as well as playing outside in the winter snow. The first week we will have a fun Trivia set up about OSCAR. The following week will be Winter Science Experiments. On nice days outside we will make a snow volcano and have fun with the colors of the lava, as well as make exploding snowmen. For inside activities we plan to make salt crystal snowflakes, coffee filter snowflakes, and make our own fake snow. Next we will learn some Sign Language to express feelings and use our manners. At the end of that week, staff will provide a match game to test the children's knowledge of sign language. At the end of the month, we will have a kindness week. Children and staff will make a Tree of Kindness, make Friendship Flowers, Kindness Chain, and many more crafts. Here's to having a fantastic month at Ecole Sifton OSCAR!



**December
was a
festive
time.**



Fun Things for the Family to Do Together

Thumbprint Cookies modernhomesteadmama.com

- 1 cup butter, room temperature (2 sticks)
 - 2/3 cup granulated sugar
 - 2 egg yolks, room temperature
 - 1 tsp vanilla extract
 - 2 cups all purpose flour
 - 1/2 tsp salt
 - Jam of choice (raspberry and apricot are commonly used)
-
- Preheat oven to 375° F.
 - Using a stand mixer or hand mixer, beat together butter and sugar on medium-high speed until well incorporated.
 - Beat in egg yolks and vanilla extract.
 - Gently mix in salt and flour. The mixture will be very crumbly at first. Just trust the process! It will come together.
 - Roll 1 inch balls and place them 2 inches apart on a cookie sheet lined with parchment paper.
 - Make small indentions in each cookie with your thumbprint (or tsp measurer).
 - Bake the cookies for 8-10 minutes.
 - Remove cookies from the oven and fill with jam.
 - Bake for an additional 3-4 minutes or until the edges of the cookies are a light golden color. The jam will be slightly melted.



**NEED A
COAT
COME
TAKE ONE!**



Thank you Sheila & Miller (U15 AA Vikings) for your donation of Coats! Thank you to all the "Take a Shot & Give Back" Camrose Minor Hockey Teams for your donations! Because of you our racks are full!

We have a lot of
winter coats.
Please stop by the
CDFCSS office
@ 4821 - 51 St. if you are in
need of winter wear!
A really great selection &
they are free.
Thank you to the Camrose
Minor Hockey teams for the
Take A Shot & Give Back
Campaign.

News from the OSCAR Office

Monthly Invoice

Your account is to be paid by the 20th of each month or very shortly after. Payments are done by Pre-authorized Debit (PAD), subsidy, cash, cheque or Debit at CDSS.

OSCAR Site Cell #'s

- Chester Ronning OSCAR:
780-608-0990
- Jack Stuart OSCAR:
780-608-9068
- Sparling OSCAR:
780-679-4700
- Sifton OSCAR:
780-781-5159



If you have questions or concerns regarding OSCAR in anyway, please contact me, Kandace Bonney, OSCAR Director, at 780-672-0141 or by email at director@camroseoscar.ca

Happy Birthday

**Miss Megan
January 18**



OSCAR Fundraiser

Mabels Labels – This great fundraiser will remain open year round and is a great way to label school supplies, coats, shoes and all the things you don't want your kids to lose. Search for our organization, OSCAR Child Care Society on the Mabel's Labels fundraising page that can be found using the QR code below to shop their catalogue. When you place your order online, it will be shipped directly to your mailing address



Created by the OSCAR Children

The OSCAR children have worked hard to lovingly create so many beautiful Christmas cards that were shared with seniors in our community.

We are certain that they helped to spread some Christmas cheer!



Subsidy

- Website: www.alberta.ca/child-care-subsidy.aspx
- Families with a joint income of up to \$90,000 that have children enrolled in a licensed school age program can qualify for subsidy.
- Check out the estimator on the website to see if your family can receive this wonderful support to cover all or part of your child care fees
- Please inform the OSCAR Director if you will be receiving subsidy
- Subsidy Phone Number 1-877-644-9992

Director News

Critical Updates

It is imperative that we know which children to expect at OSCAR in order to ensure their safety and prevent missing children situations. All schedule changes MUST be made by contacting the OSCAR Director by email, with advance notice (preferably by noon the day before, info@camroseOSCAR.ca or calling the OSCAR office at CDFCSS 780-672-0141. If there is no answer, please leave a detailed voicemail in regards to what you are calling about.

When sending an email, or leaving a voicemail, please include the following information:

- Child's full name
- Program location
- Reason for absence (if your child is ill I need to know as it is a licensing requirement)
- Date absent
- Time of the call

**CRITICAL
UPDATE**



If notice of cancellation is not received by the OSCAR Director by noon on the day before, there shall be a minimum one-hour or day rate charge as per family contract. If no notice is given and a child does not arrive at the program as scheduled, a \$25 no-show fee shall be charged.

If your child is scheduled to attend OSCAR and has joined an after school activity, it is VERY IMPORTANT that you notify the OSCAR Director/Office of the late arrival to the program after the sport activity. Scheduled children need to check in with the OSCAR staff before going to the activity. Once they check in, they go directly to the activity so they are not late.

Helpful Tips

- Email your child's teacher to let them know when your child has OSCAR
- Write in your child's agenda they go to OSCAR



CDFCSS Office Hours

- Monday - Thursday open to the public 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon & 1:30 - 4:00.
- Friday - Closed to the Public (phones answered)
- On occasion the CDFCSS office is closed for a few hours as front end reception is unavailable due to meeting attendance requirements.



Fun Things for the Family to Do Together

wondermomwannabe.com

Family Winter Bucket List

Bake homemade Bread

Make snow ice Cream

Donate old towels/Blankets
to animal shelter

Build a snow man

Have a snowBall fight

Host a footBall Party

Play a Board game

Make a snow globe

Go to a hockey game

Make snow angels

Have a family movie night

Make Chicken noodle soup

Shovel a neighbor's Driveway

Camp out in the family room

Make apple Cider

Enjoy a reading Day

Donate winter wear
to a homeless shelter

Make Personalized mugs

Enjoy hot CoCoa in your new
mugs

Bake Cookies

Visit a museum

Go ice skating

Go Bowling

Do a winter Scavenger hunt

Take Pictures in the snow

Have a Pajama Day

Go sledding

Curl UP By the fire

Collect Pine Cones

Make a Bird feeder

Build a snow fort



Community Resource



Camrose Community Pantry

- Camrose & District FCSS 4821 - 51 St. (Across from Camrose Co-op grocery store.)
- Stop in & take what you need. Stock for Community Pantry is dependent on donations received
- Monday - Friday, 9:00 a.m. - noon & 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
- Also available @ Camrose Public Library
- 4710 - 50 Ave.
- Mon. - Fri., 10:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
- Sat. - 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. & Sun. 12:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Visit the HelpBook

@www.camrosefcss.ca

for other resources.



Camrose Neighbor Aid

- Community Cupboard @ Community Church - 5204 - 53 Ave., Mondays, 10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. & Wednesdays from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon. 780-672-7000
- Bread & coffee on Wednesdays at Camrose Center Point Church; 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. 5807 - 47 Ave.

Food Bank (4524 - 54 St.); Tues., Wed., Thurs.; 9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. 780-679-3220

Martha's Table Soup & Sandwich from 12:00 noon - 1:00 p.m.

- Tuesdays - at Messiah Lutheran Church; 4810 - 50 St.
- Wednesday - Camrose United Church; 4829 - 50 St.

Community Spaghetti Supper - Wednesdays, 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. @ Moose Hall Basement; 5001 - 52 Ave. (may take July & August off).

Community Table @ Camrose CityLights Church - 4920 - 48 St., Thursdays @ 12:00 noon. Fresh meal.

Transit Token - worth \$4.00 to subsidize the cost of participating taxi, handi-van or community bus rides.

Tokens available from different social agencies. When you are paying for a ride, you give the driver the token(s) to go toward your fare & responsible for paying the remainder of the fare.



Community Events



CAMROSE FAMILY RESOURCE CENTRE
Part of the Camrose & Area Family Resource Network 780-672-0141

Indoor Playground Drop in

4823 51 Street Camrose



Tuesdays and Thursdays 10:00 - 2:00
**** NEW ** Starting January 17th**
Wednesday Nights 4:30 - 7:00

Join us for:

- ✓ Resource Sharing
- ✓ Free Play
- ✓ Crafts and Sensory Experiences
- ✓ A chance to connect

NO REGISTRATION REQUIRED

New Hours until March 2024

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CAMROSE FAMILY RESOURCE CENTRE
Part of the Camrose & Area Family Resource Network 780-672-0141



CAMROSE FAMILY RESOURCE CENTRE
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Online Financial Literacy Info Sessions

Attend any or all of the session!



January 20th 2024

1. 9:00 - Exploring your relationship with money
2. 10:00 - Income and Taxes
3. 11:00 - Budgeting
4. 12:00 - Banking and financial services
5. 1:00 - Saving
6. 2:00 - Credit and Credit Reporting
7. 3:00 - Debit
8. 4:00 - Consumerism

Please register at
<https://www.camrosefrc.com/registration>

LOOKING FOR INFORMATION OR SUPPORT ON PARENTING?

We have many supports, services and programs that can assist you in parenting your child or teen.



CAMROSE FAMILY RESOURCE CENTRE
Part of the Camrose & Area Family Resource Network 780-672-0141

**For more information or to access support, please call
the Camrose Family Resource Centre at
780-672-0141
to speak with one of our staff.**