

NEWS & VIEWS

A COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER FOR STUDENT FAMILIES AT UVIC



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Spectacular Wildlife Bridges

Ispeeta Ahmed

Grade: 5

Frank Hobbs Elementary School

Over the summer vacation of this year, my family and I had so much fun. We went on a road trip to Edmonton. Canada is a country of beautiful mixture of amazing wildlife, stunning natural landmarks, and big modern cities. On the way, we visited so many breathtaking national parks, such as Banff National Park and the amazing Rocky Mountains. During the road trip I saw several *wildlife crossing bridges*. I was so amazed about the idea that I've decided to write about these wonderful wildlife bridges. *Continued on page 2*

Halloween Party



Join the Family Centre and Campus Security To Celebrate Halloween

Friday, October 31st, 4:00 - 6:00 pm

Come in Costume - Kids and Parents!

Activities with the Family Centre

Treat Bags from Campus Security

Hot Chocolate and Cookies from UVic Food Services

Family Centre Weekly Programs

Monday – Family Learn and Share	10:00am-12noon
Monday – Make and Take	7:00-9:00pm
Wednesday – Under 5 Playgroup	10:00am-12noon
Wednesday – After School Club	3:30-5:00pm (starting October 8th)
Friday – Under 5 Playgroup	10:00am-12noon

In addition to weekly programs, the Family Centre is open Monday (9:30-12), Tuesday (11-3), Wednesday (9:30-3:00) and Friday (9:30-12). For more information contact the Family Centre through Facebook or by email at familyc@uvic.ca.



Find us on Facebook

First of all, do you know which way my dad was driving? Well, you already know that we were going to Edmonton thus we took the Trans Canada Highway. This scenic two lane highway stretches from Newfoundland to Vancouver Island. In length, it was around 8000 km. Wow! On the way Alberta's Banff National Park is home to an amazing wildlife population like Elk, Moose, Bighorn Sheep, Bears etc.

So many people are driving there without stopping. The high speed traffic can be a cause for heavy road killing of the wildlife. Thus several wildlife overpasses and underpass tunnels were constructed to help keep the wildlife and vehicles separate so there won't be a collision.

These bridges help wild animals to cross the busy highways safely. This help reduces the accidents between wildlife and vehicles. These bridges also help the animals reach their family and friends separated by the highways. Although Wildlife bridges are an amazing idea some animals go the wrong way and the wildlife-vehicle collisions happen.



I hope you like my article about these stunning wildlife bridges. Thanks to my mom and dad for providing the necessary information.

National Family Week

October 6 - 12, 2014

Families and Finances - It just adds up!

Each fall, the Canadian Association of Family Resource Programs coordinates National Family Week. The theme this year is Families and Finances - It just adds up! Financial literacy is not just about money, it's an essential life skill. For families, it's an opportunity to learn together about setting goals, planning ahead and making choices about needs versus wants. Financial literacy empowers families to make the best decisions for their financial well-being.

This year also marks the 20th anniversary of the International Year of the Family first declared by the United Nations in 1994. National Family Week 2014 is the ideal opportunity to acknowledge the tremendous work being done around the world with respect to the role of families in development, recent trends in family policy development, good practices in family policy making, challenges faced by families worldwide and recommended solutions. Visit www.frp.ca/IYF2014 to see how Canadian organizations are working to make a difference in the lives of all families.

October Learn and Share Schedule

October 6th: Jane Wismer, Public Health Nurse will be with us.

October 13th: Thanksgiving - no program this week.

October 27th: Fiona Puszka, Personal Safety Officer will be joining us. Fiona will provide information on the many services offered through Campus Security as well as address any safety related questions people have.

On the weekend of **October 11th-13th** families across Canada will be celebrating **Thanksgiving**. This holiday was traditionally to celebrate the year's harvest. Now it is a time for families to come together and give thanks for the plenty and the blessings of the year.

New Faces at the Family Centre



My name is Sandy Buyze; I'm married with four children and have an old faithful retriever dog. I enjoy pursuing many outdoor activities, particularly running and cycling, I am also an avid reader.

The majority of my teaching career has been on Salt Spring Island where I was an Early Childhood Educator at Little Red Schoolhouse Preschool. Two years ago I moved with my family to North Saanich and began teaching part-time at the preschool where I'm presently at, Carrot Seed Preschool. I'm excited to be joining you at the UVic Family Centre on Wednesday and Friday mornings!

In the field of early childhood education, I am inspired by the connections that young children make through art, play and our natural outdoor environment! I take a specific interest in engaging children with explorations of the outdoors; no matter what the weather...mud, puddles, wind and rain help create great opportunities for discovery through play!



My name is Kerianne Werth and I am currently completing my Bachelor's of Child and Youth Care through UVIC. I came to Victoria at the beginning of September from Calgary, AB after completing my diploma of CYC at Mount Royal University.

I come from a family of 4 kids, two older sisters and a younger brother, and two wonderful parents. I also have two dogs that I miss very much!

My experience with children and youth ranges from working in a preschool, Sunday school with both early childhood and grade school, and working in school and community programs. I love laughing with little ones, engaging in play, and developing relationships!

I am very happy to be doing my 3rd year practicum with the Family Centre and I look forward to meeting everyone and having a really great year together!

Programs and Events

Family Learn and Share

On Monday mornings from **10am-12noon** the Family Centre hosts a drop-in program for families to interact and learn from one another. Each week there is a designated focus topic and facilitator. Please contact us by email, phone or Facebook if you have any questions or suggestions.

Wednesday and Friday Playgroups:

Families are welcome from **10:00 am to 12:00 pm** to enjoy an engaging morning full of activities. Our goal is to provide children with a rich environment in which they can learn through play. Expect engaging activities in the main room, along with free play in the toy room. A healthy snack for all to share is provided with coffee and tea for the adults. Engage in some adult conversation and be a part of the warm, friendly atmosphere. Story time with songs and stories, as well as outdoor play as the weather allows. We try to squeeze in many important favorite elements in a short time, while still being flexible to follow the lead of the children.

After School Club:

School Aged Kids (Grades 1-6) are invited to the Family Centre's After School Club on **Wednesdays from 3:30 - 5:00 pm**. We will be doing a variety of activities each week. These might include outdoor games like soccer, tag, and croquet, as well as puzzles, projects, board games, talent shows and crafts. **Starts October 8th.**

Mom's Time Out!

Do you need a 'time-out'? The Family Centre is open on **Monday nights from 7-9pm** for women to get together, have a cup of tea and chat. Feel free to come for half an hour or stay for the whole time. If you don't have children – don't let the name deceive you! You are more than welcome. (Note: Nursing infants are welcome.)

Book Club:

The Family Centre has a book club that meets on **the third Thursday of each month** to discuss a novel chosen by the group. If you enjoy reading and would like to get together with others please come along. To find out more join our Facebook group or send us an email at familyhousingbookclub@gmail.com.

Community Events



Preschoolers in the Park

Mt Doug Park, 4500 Cedar Hill Cross Rd.

October 3rd, 2014, 10-11:30am

Play on our adventure playgrounds, enjoy organized circle time and partake in a nature/urban walk through surrounding neighborhoods. Bring a stroller or child carrier. Registration is not required. Canceled if raining at 9:30 am. Up to 5 years old.

Batwings and Broomsticks

Nellie McClung Library

October 23rd, 9:30-10

Have fun at this Halloween storytime filled with not-so-scary stories and songs. For young children and their families. This program will occur before regular opening hours, and all children must be accompanied by an adult. Register online or call for more information.

Student Composer's Concert

MacLaurin Building

Phillip T. Young Recital Hall, Rm B125

October 24th, 8-9:30, Admission by Donation

Featuring original compositions by students in the School of Music Composition program.

Celebrate Canada Library Month with

Superheroes of Victoria

Nellie McClung Library

October 25th, 3-3:30

Kapow! Come celebrate Canadian Library Month with superheroes. Listen to stories and have your superhero questions answered by one or more of your favourite superhero characters. No registration required. For children and their families; children under 3 must be accompanied by an adult.