

NEWS & VIEWS

A COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER FOR STUDENT FAMILIES AT UVIC



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Thank you!

At the Family Centre we love story time. Sometimes stories are a special moment with a single child who has crawled into your lap, book in hand. Other times over a dozen listeners eagerly gather around a felt board. Story time might take place under the trees outside on a beautiful summers day or cozy in the quiet room while the rain pours down outside.

As staff we were finding our library a little limited and so asked our UVic community to help in the form of a holiday season book drive. Once again we were overwhelmed by your generosity. We are so appreciative to all those of you who participated, special thanks to Financial Aid and Student Awards, the Office of the VP Academic and Provost, the Office of the AVP Student Affairs and the UVic Bookstore who got the word out and gathered the books. On Saturday January 25th we had a special story time during our pancake breakfast to launch our new library. Thank you once again to everyone who made this possible. We hope that the pictures capture a little of what your gifts mean to us. (Continued on page 2.)



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 – Afterschool Program	3:30-5:00pm
Friday – Under 5 Playgroup	10:00am-12noon

In addition to weekly programs, the Family Centre is open Monday (9:30-1:00), Tuesday (11:00-3:00), Wednesday (9:30-5:00) 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

Pancake Breakfast Storytime



We will be hosting another Pancake Breakfast event in February.
Visit our Facebook page for details.

After School Program February 2014

Wednesday February 5th, Beach Day: Fingers crossed for a sunny day! We'll be heading down to Gyro Beach to collect shells, and have a scavenger hunt. Be sure to show up at 3:30, if not we may have left already.

Wednesday February 12th, Valentines: Join us for a Valentines celebration and some fun games, like lawn twister!

Wednesday February 19th, Craft: We'll be using the shells and treasure we collected at the beach to decorate our surprise crafts.

Wednesday February 26th, Baking: We'll be baking and decorating mini cupcakes, hopefully we'll have extra for you to bring home and share.

As much as we can plan for our weekly activities there is always the reality that things can and do change. So please note that we may need to change the order of things if for some reason it is necessary. Also please have your child come prepared for outside play. Even if the weather seems dreary, if there is any sort of window of opportunity we will take advantage of any outside play we can get even if it is only for a few minutes.



February is Black History Month. Visit

<http://www.blackhistorycanada.ca> to learn more about the history and contributions of Canada's Black Community.

Delos Davis was the first Canadian Black lawyer to be allowed to practice as a solicitor by 1885 and a barrister

by 1886, after years of struggle, through an act of Provincial Parliament.

Celebrations this Month

Family Day: February 10th

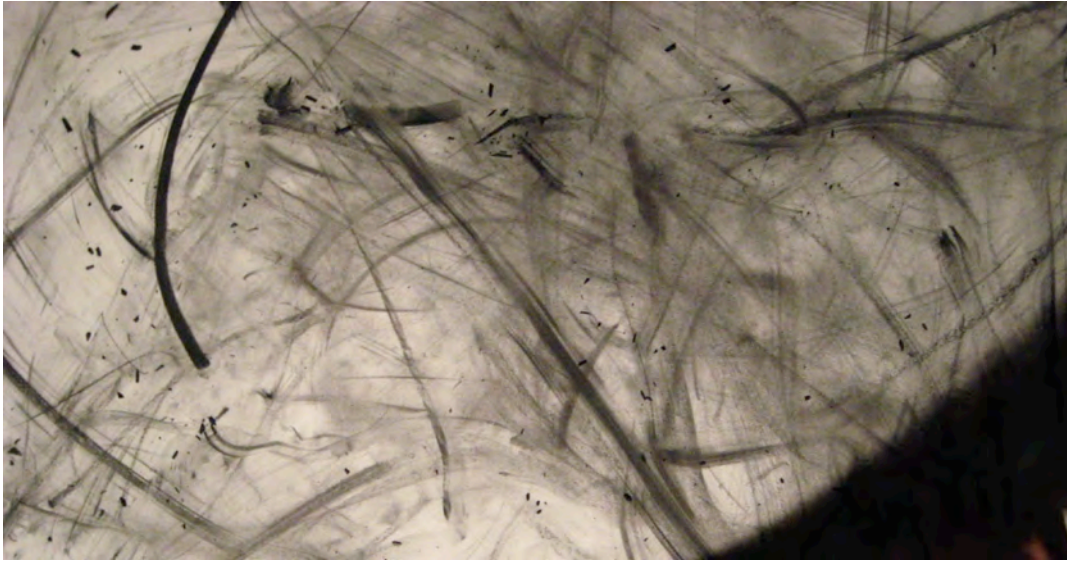
Enjoy a day off with your family on February 10th.

Valentines Day: February 14th

Spoil your sweetheart on February 14th.



UVic Family Centre and Visual Arts Connections



Arriving at an image is a process, not a frozen moment. Drawing for me is about fluidity. There may be a vague sense of what you're going to draw, but things occur that may modify, consolidate or shed doubt on what you know. So drawing is a testing of ideas; a slow motion version of thought. It does not arrive instantly like a photograph. ~ South African Artist William Kentridge

On behalf of the UVic Family Centre we would like to invite you to an event with the Visual Arts department at the University of Victoria. We have been working hard to expand some of the notions of what children can and cannot do in the arts. Historically, Euro-American and western thinking has framed and researched children as creators of 'child art.' In our effort to engage the arts seriously with children and families, we have an opportunity to go to the Visual Arts department.

This event will consist of an artist-guided tour of the Visual Arts building. The tour will include an art exhibition, which may be on display, and a visit to a graduate student's art studio. Our guide will be open to answer any questions you might have about the space along the way. Our artist-guide will also provide us the opportunity to draw with charcoal and paper, from a still-life model.

Coffee and snacks will be provided.

Date: February 7th 2014.

Meeting Times and Locations

To participate families can meet at the UVic Family Centre at 9:30am, the Petch Fountain at 9:45am or at the Visual Arts Building at 10:05am. The group will spend 45 minutes at the Visual Arts Centre.



Easy Valentine's Day Wreath

Cut a hollow circle out of paper. Cut hearts in various colours and shapes. Glue the hearts to the circle base. Attach a ribbon to hang. Charm your loved one.

□ The annual **Be a Tourist in Your Hometown** event is happening February 27th-March 2nd. This is an inexpensive and fun way to check out local attractions. The crowds are big but it's a great deal. Visit www.attractionsvictoria.com for more details.

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.

Make and Take:

Need a night out? The Family Centre is open on **Monday** evenings from **7-9pm**. Currently the group is working on knitting projects, but feel free to bring your own craft project along and work on it while getting to know other people in the community. Don't have a craft project? Can only make it for an hour? Come anyway! The kettle is always on and we'd love to see you!

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 go to our Facebook page.

Community Events



Victoria Children's Literature Roundtable

Nellie McClung Branch

February 17th, 7pm

Polly Horvath, winner of the 2013 Bolen Book Award for *One Year in Coal Harbour*, will come and talk about her writing career. Polly's award winning books, such as *The Trolls*, *The Canning Season*, and *My One-Hundred Adventures*, delight children with their quirky sense of humour, rich language and plucky heroines.

Tech out with Science

Nellie McClung Branch

February 21st, 2:30-4:00pm

Here's your chance to play with Science Venture's favourite tech toys. Try out snap circuits, Sphero robotic balls, make a fruit remote for a video game with Makey Makey, and experience Lego Mindstorm demos. For ages 9-12.

Samba Celebrations

Victoria Conservatory of Music

February 22nd, 2:00-4:00pm

A free and very special Carnival workshop. Make your own colourful costume, learn to play Samba rhythms on percussion instruments, and dance through the halls of the VCM in a mini Samba parade.

Who Gives a Hoot

Swan Lake Nature House

February 23rd, Noon-3pm

Who glides silently, can turn their head almost completely around, and can cough up a wicked hairball—who-who-who? Drop in any time as we explore the wonderful world of owls through games, stories, crafts, hand-on exploration, dissect an owl pellet, and try your luck at a wicked game of owl bingo.

Art Jam

Arts Centre at Cedar Hill

February 27th, 4-6pm

A free monthly drop in for teens 13-17. With support from artist facilitators explore art making and methods and have fun creating individual and collaborative projects.