

NEWS & VIEWS

A COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER FOR STUDENT FAMILIES AT UVIC



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Working with Clay at the Family Centre

During the summer children at the Family Centre enjoyed the opportunity to work with clay during our Early Learning Program. Using real clay provides an earthy experience – it's inviting to work with natural materials!



The physical properties of clay provide an interesting sensory experience. With the addition of water, children can experience how pliable it becomes.

We will be spending more time with clay this Fall – please stop by our Early Learning Program on Wednesday and Friday mornings for some messy fun!



Family Centre Weekly Programs

Monday – Family Learn and Share	10:00am-12noon
Monday – Mom's Time Out	7:00-9:00pm
Wednesday – Early Learning Program	10:00am-12noon
Thursday – After School Program	3:30-5:00pm (starting October 8th)
Friday – Early Learning Program	10:00am-12noon

In addition to weekly programs, the Family Centre is open Mondays 9-2pm and 7-9pm, Tuesdays 9-2pm, Wednesdays 9-2pm, Thursdays 2:30-5:30pm and Fridays 9:30-12:30pm. For more information contact the Family Centre through Facebook or by email: familyc@uvic.ca.



Find us on Facebook



Congratulations Elizabeth – We'll miss you!

Elizabeth Quong has been the Director of the Family Centre for the past nine years but feels that it is time to retire. Elizabeth has dedicated herself to supporting student families and will be greatly missed. As part of our annual potluck supper, families celebrated with Elizabeth and wished her all the best for her future endeavours.

A note from Elizabeth:

My involvement with the UVic Family Centre for the last nine years has been such a privilege! It has been an honour to share the stories, the joys and frustrations, the strengths and support that families offer each other. I will miss the children, parents and grandparents, staff and volunteers and students: but I'll be stopping by to say Hello. Thank you for the lovely celebration we shared at the Pot Luck! The Family Centre does create such a great sense of community!

Halloween Pancake Breakfast

Start your Halloween celebrations with a yummy pancake breakfast at the Family Centre.

Saturday, October 31st
9:00 - 10:30 am

Come in Costume Kids and
Parents!

****Halloween crafts and
activities****

****Treat Bags from Campus
Security****



Get Ready to Shake Out.

**Thursday, October 15, 2015
10:15 a.m.**



Sign up online to participate in the largest
earthquake drill in Canadian history.

ShakeOutBC.ca



Brought to you by the Victoria Emergency Management Agency

PrepareVictoria.ca

**The Canadian Federal Election takes place on
October 19th, 2015. To find out more about the
election process and if you are eligible to vote,
visit: <http://www.elections.ca/home.aspx>**

GVPL wants to hear from you

Greater Victoria Public Library Board is developing the Library Strategic Plan for 2016-2020. They want to hear from you. What should be the Key Priorities in the next 5 years? There are many opportunities to engage from September 12-October 12th.

- [Take the online survey](#)
- Request a paper copy of the survey at your [library branch](#)
- [Register for a community workshop](#):
- Connect at Community Events

<http://gvpl.ca/reports-and-plans/strategic-plan-community-consultations>

After School Program is Restarting

The After School Program will be restarting on Thursday October 8th. **Parents please note – you must sign a parent release form for your child in at the first session.**

Children should be dressed for outdoor activities. During the fall the program will offer the following activities: hiking, baking, outdoor games and art. Activities will always wrap-up at the Family Centre.

We are looking forward to another great year of fun! If you have any questions, please call or email the Family Centre at: familyc@uvic.ca, 250-472-4062.



My name is Melody Wang. I am currently a third year Child and Youth Care student from China. I am going to be doing my practicum at UVic Family Centre from September to December. I have experience working with children and youth from kindergarten to high school, as well as families and students in university. During my spare time, I cover songs, bake cookies, hang out with friends, and volunteer for special events. I like meeting people from all over the world and enjoy exposing myself to various cultures. I am looking forward to doing my practicum at Family Centre and I am excited to meet children and families from a diverse set of cultures.

See you soon!



Hello everyone!
My name is Sophia and I am a student in the Child and Youth Care program at the University of Victoria. I really enjoy working with families from different cultural backgrounds and also getting to meet more people and chat about

their cultures. I also enjoy working with young children and being in an energetic environment. I also adore how children share their adventures to places that I have not been yet. I am a practicum student at the UVic Family Centre from September to April, so feel free to drop by and say hi! Thanks, Sophia



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. Programs this month: Mon Oct 5th - Public Health Nurse; Mon Oct 12th - Thanksgiving (no program); Mon Oct 19th - Child Care Resource and Referral.

Early Learning Program:

Families are welcome to this drop-in program that runs **Wednesday and Friday** mornings from **10:00 am to 12:00 pm**. Learning through play is encouraged in an environment that promotes children's inherent love of learning and sense of wonder. Each morning session concludes with a storytime with songs/music as well as an opportunity for outdoor play.

After School Club:

School Aged Kids (Grades 1-6) are invited to the Family Centre's After School Club on **Thursdays 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. **Please make sure your kids are dressed for the outdoors. STARTS OCTOBER 8TH. PARENTS MUST SIGN A PARENT RELEASE FORM.**

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 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



Spectacular Spiders

Elk/Beaver Lake Park

October 4th, 1-2:30pm

Walk anywhere in BC and you'll be less than a metre from a spider! Join guest naturalists, Claudia and Darren Copley, and go for an expedition in search of spiders and more. Meet at the Beaver Lake Picnic shelter at the Filter Beds parking lot at 1pm. 5+ years. Free.

Story Buddies, Little Buddies

Nellie McClung Library

October 23rd, 2:30-3:30pm

Make your own original book even if you can't read or write yet. Story Buddies pairs young children with volunteer teens for creative writing and illustration fun. Your Big Buddy will write down your story and then you will illustrate it together. For ages 4-6. Register online or call GVPL.

Spooktakular Spiders

Swan Lake Nature House

October 25th, Noon-3:00pm

What carnivorous animal spins threads stronger than steel, injects venom to liquefy its prey, and ingests food with a sucking stomach? The web of intrigue will be spun and unfolded during this special event. Meet the locals, find out which of the few are dangerous and the many that aren't, and make a spider craft. You might even shake hands with Rosebud the Tarantula! Experts will be on hand to identify any spiders you'd like to bring for identification. Drop-in event.

Batwings and Broomsticks

Central Library Branch

October 31st, 3-4pm

Have fun at this Halloween storytime filled with not-so-scary stories, songs, an easy holiday craft and a not-too-spooky short film. For ages 3-5. Register online or call for more information.