



29 September 2009

Wind & Tide Preschools Limited
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We trust that you are settling into preschool and adjusting to all the new fall schedules. The beginning of a new school year is always a busy and exciting time! Now that you have, hopefully, begun to catch a breath, we want to let you know more of what you can expect from your year at Wind and Tide.

Did you know that 90% of what you will learn in your entire life occurs between birth and six years of age? Did you know that a child's learning is significantly increased when parents know "how" and "what" their child is being taught? We consider it an incredible privilege to be entrusted with your child during this amazing formative period of life.

Over the last 20 years, Wind and Tide has tried a variety of methods to keep you, the parents, informed about your child's education journey within our preschool classroom. We want to keep you excited and involved in your child's learning, without adding too much more into your busy lives. Today your child is bringing home 2 items which will assist in giving you a fantastic understanding of the fun, activities and learning experiences of this school year.

Today your child is bringing home...

1. Fall Class Schedule (your fridge would be a great home for this!)
2. CD Order Envelope (if you want the 50% discount, your order **MUST** be in by Friday, October 9, 2009. After this date the CDs will be sold at their regular price of \$20 each and will be available from our website.)
3. Please also remember that you have been provided with a Parent Information DVD. We know it is tricky to find the time for DVDs and realistically, when you find it, the W&T Parent Info one will not be like a Hot New Release, but it will be very beneficial!:) Please do watch and learn all that your child will be experiencing during their year at school.

1) Fall Class Schedule

This gives you a quick look at what is happening each month in your child's class.

2) CD Order Envelope

Our goal in making these CD's was to create music that the whole family can enjoy and at the same time provide an opportunity for your child to enthusiastically share what

they are learning at school. Music is an incredible tool for conveying and retaining information. We are proud to say that these are excellent music CD's.

CD Descriptions:

In the three year old program we highlight...

1. Going for Goodness:

This album contains all the songs from the Wind and Tide social development curriculum for three year olds. Each song highlights a different social attribute such as, thankfulness, encouragement, self-control and respect. The songs reinforce what children are discovering in the classroom setting and serve as a way to help them memorize key concepts of kindness and social responsibility. The album includes ten songs and ten instrumental band tracks.

2. Beginner's Biology

This album contains all the songs from the Wind and Tide science curriculum for three year olds. Each song teaches the children about some of the amazing living things that are in our world and how each of these living things works together with other living things in what we call the "Rhythm of Life". The album includes 10 brief introductions, 10 songs and 10 instrumental band tracks.

In the four year old program we highlight...

1. All about Art

This is an album of original songs that celebrate the colourful lives and creative accomplishments of nine famous artists. The lyrics are a rich blend of facts about the artist's lives, techniques and major works. Each song introduces a few key words that are useful in building and expanding an "artists" vocabulary. The album includes nine songs, nine instrumental band tracks and a 24 page CD booklet with pictures and facts about the artists and their works.

2. World of Wonders

This album contains all the songs from the Wind and Tide science curriculum for four year olds. Children learn about the many worlds of wonder that are waiting for them, just outside their door. From bugs to dinosaurs; from the jungle to the coral reef - there is a world of wonders just waiting to be explored! The album includes 10 brief introductions, 10 songs and 10 instrumental band tracks.

*all four of these Wind and Tide Curriculum CD's are available for purchase year round at www.windandtide.com for a cost of \$20 each.

For the next 2 weeks you can order our CD's at a 50% discount. After Friday, October 9, 2009 the discount will no longer be available. We would like ALL of our students to have the CD's that correspond with their year of curriculum. Please see the order envelope for details.

Every month your child will be learning new material which is reinforced with new songs. Your monthly schedule and our party day video announcements (which are also on our website www.windandtide.com) will help keep you up-to-date.

3) Parent Information DVD

This hour long DVD is divided into four sections which you can watch in one sitting or split them up into shorter segments as time allows. The DVD covers our preschool goals, philosophy, daily teaching methods and classroom teaching demonstrations. In the past, this information was given at our October Parent Evenings. We have always found the children of parents who attend these evenings experience greater success in learning. We do recognize that it's difficult to make it to evening meetings when you are in the midst of raising a young family – babysitters are expensive, schedules are tight and realistically “bed” is the only place you really want to be heading to once supper is done! We hope that sometime by early October you can find the time to view this DVD. The information is important and your preschooler's year will run much more smoothly and successfully if you know what is happening in their classroom.

For parents who would like to attend a live version of the Parent Information session, we invite you to join myself (Rachel Cram) and our Regional Directors. We will host an evening for Parents of both the 3 and 4 year old classes at which you can hear about the programs and interact with questions and feedback if you wish.

Three Year Old Parents- Thursday October 8th, 7:30-9:00pm at our Parkland Location (9574 160th St Surrey)

Four Year Old Parents- Monday October 5th, 7:30-9:00 pm at our Parkland Location (9574 160th St Surrey)

A child's capacity to learn is astounding. We hope you will thoroughly enjoy your child's educational journey through their preschool years at Wind and Tide. Thank you so much for choosing to be a part of our schools!

4) Family Photo Night

Is it time for an updated family photo? Perhaps you'd like to send one out as your Christmas card? By now you will have seen the information brochure on your classroom bulletin board, and the time has come to book your sitting date. Wind and Tide has an agreement with Artona Studios. If we organise your sitting times we can send all the sitting fees (\$20/family) to World Vision for the Survive to Five Program (if you are new to W&T you will hear more about this in upcoming months). With over 2000 families enrolled in our programs this could be quite a sizable amount!

Of course there is absolutely NO pressure to get your family picture taken! But if this was on your to do list, well let us make it easy for you! We know you will be very impressed with the results!

Here are the dates for sittings and 2 locations for your convenience. To establish your sitting time please contact the booking volunteer (a HUGE thank you to Laura Haugen and Shelley Davyduck for their gift of time in this!)

Monday, October 19th and Tuesday October 20th at our **Parkland** Location (9574 160th St Surrey) Sittings occur between 3:30-8:30pm on both days. To book please email: laura.windandtide@gmail.com

Or

Monday October 26th and Tuesday October 27th at our **Grace Point** Location (3487 King George Hwy S. Surrey) Sittings occur between 3:30-8:30pm on both days. To book please email: shelley.windandtide@gmail.com

Each family will be given a 15 min photo shoot. Again the sitting fee (non-refundable) is \$20 and that includes 8 previews and 1 free 8x10 of your choice. All sitting fees will go to World Vision.

This has been a long news letter! Thank you for reading through to the end!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Cram', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Rachel Cram
Director, Wind and Tide Preschools