



LANSING CO-OPERATIVE SPIRIT

A NEWSLETTER FOR THE LANSING CO-OPERATIVE NURSERY SCHOOL COMMUNITY

News from the Staff

From the Director:

Open Houses

It's time to spread the word to your family and friends! Lansing will be opening our doors to the community for 6 Open Houses starting in January. There will be an opportunity to tour the school, meet the teachers and some co-op parents and pickup registration packages. Our Open House will take place between 9:00 - 10:15 am on the following dates:

Monday January 12th

Tuesday January 27th

Wednesday February 4th

Thursday February 19th

Monday March 2nd

Tuesday March 24th

Registration for 2014-2015 School Year

Registration packages will be available for pick-up in Gina's office anytime after January 12th, 2015. All returning families may register prior to our public registration day which is April 13th, 2015. If you have any questions regarding any of the programs we offer please see Gina.

Pajama Day!

Both the Nursery and Preschool classes will participate in the Pajama Party. Please wear your PJ's to school on **Thursday, January 22nd**. Children are also invited to bring along their favourite stuffed animal (please ensure that all stuffed animals are clearly labeled with your child's name). We will be having special activities and pancakes for snack. All children are welcome to attend that day.



Winter Weather Reminders:

Indoor Footwear

To ensure that our school floors stay slush and puddle free, please make sure that your children have indoor shoes. Duty parents are also asked that you bring indoor shoes with you for your duty days and leave wet boots in the cubby area.

Outdoor Clothing

As the weather becomes colder we would like to remind parents to ensure their children are dressed appropriately for the weather. We will be playing outside every day unless it is raining or colder than -10 degrees Celsius with the wind chill.

January 2015

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January Birthdays

Nathan - January 4th

Evelyn - January 22

Mona - January 29

Donate to our school Online

www.lansingnursery.org
www.canadahelps.org/dn/18

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Reach us at
www.lansingnursery.org
80 Church Avenue,
North York, ON
M2N 4G1
(416) 225-4581

News from the Board

News from the Fundraising Team

Happy New Year Lansing Families!

The past 2014 fundraising activities together with online donations via the Canada helps website have managed to raise us \$2,940 towards our goal of \$5,000. Funds raised will be used towards enriching and improving our school programs / facilities in our TEAM Campaign.

We have many activities lined up for the new year. Activities for 2015 include: Valentine Cookiegrams, Movie Night, Family Night /Spring Auction and a possible Garage Sale.

If you know anyone who would like to contribute items or services to our Spring Auction, you may contact Barbara at the email below.

Please let us know if you are willing to help out. Your input is very much appreciated. Thank you in advance for all the support.

We need you!

~ Fundraising Team

Lansingfundraising@gmail.com

News from the President

Welcome back to school, and welcome to 2015! There are still nearly six months left of the school year, but we all know how quickly that will pass. As a matter of fact, the Board's attention has been focussed on the 2015-6 school year for some time now, and I wanted to review some of the progress here.

First, a big thank you to all who responded to our survey in November on programming for 2015-6. The Board has discussed the issue at length at meetings in November and December. As a result of your input, the Board has decided to maintain our current hours of programming (9-3:30 for pre-school and kindergarten, 9-11:45 for morning nursery, 1 to 3:30 for afternoon pre-school). While we recognize that longer hours may attract a wider segment of families, support within the current Lansing community for longer hours was mixed. The Board ultimately decided

that we should continue to offer our high-quality programming on our existing hours rather than take the financial risk of offering a longer program that may or may not be needed within the wider community.

The survey also revealed fairly strong support for an ongoing junior kindergarten program (full days, 5 days a week), for families looking for a smaller, more personalized JK experience for their children, or for families who wished to keep their children in a familiar environment for an extra year. The Board has voted to continue to offer JK programming for next year.

These decisions in hand, the school is now ready for registration for the 2015-6 school year, starting with Open Houses scheduled starting next week. Registration for current families for our pre-school and kindergarten programs begins soon, so if you are interested in securing a spot for your child/children please speak to Director Gina as soon as possible. Early registration also allows us

to firm up our financial projections and finalize programming and staffing requirements earlier rather than later. Registration for current or alumni families for nursery is also open starting Jan 12.

For members of the public, registration for our preschool and kindergarten programs begins in February and for our nursery program begins April 13, 2015. This is where you can help.....word of mouth is one of our strongest marketing tools, and recommendations from satisfied Lansing families go a long way towards convincing new families to join the school. So if you have friends/ neighbours looking for a school for their 2-4 YO, please tell them about our fun programming, our spotless facilities and our fantastic staff. Let your enthusiasm show! Full enrolment for 2015-6 will go a long way towards keeping our school financially strong and academically vibrant.

Jodi, Evelyn's mom

January 2015

Calendar of Events

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 	2	3
4	5 	6	7	8	9	10
11	12 	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22 	23 	24
25	26	27 	28	29	30	31



Monday, January 5th

Back to school



Monday, January 12th

First open house of the 2014/15 school year.



Thursday, January 22nd

Pajama Day



Friday, January 23rd

P.A. Day School is closed



Tuesday, January 27th

Open House 9:00–10:30

Looking Forward

Thursday February 5th -Critters visits the Preschool Class

Thursday February 12th—Nursery School Valentine 's Day Party

Friday February 13th— Preschool Valentine's Day party

Monday February 16th—Family Day (School Closed)

Saturday February 21 -Parent Clean-Up Day

Featured Article

Two Native Tongues?

Does learning two languages make speaking one language harder?

No—a child exposed to two languages at the same time will learn both with no trouble at all.

Parents should never feel guilty about using a different language at home. In fact, studies have shown that a normally developing child can use one language at home and another at school, and that neither language suffers as a result.

The key to developing two languages is the opportunity to use both languages in a familiar, interactive environment like home or school. If a child is exposed to one language at home and another at school, she may go through a period where her first language suffers, but she will eventually master both.

If your child's English is suffering because she is speaking another language somewhere else, then social interaction may be the key. Organizing sports, crafts, recess games or a lunch group can go a long way towards building English-speaking skills.

Should parents only speak to their children in English?

No—parents should communicate with their child in the language that they are most comfortable using.

It is the quality of language that counts.

Parents should feel comfortable with language and encourage communicative interactions such as story-telling and make-believe play, and sharing personal experiences in their own language. It is important not to confuse your child's language learning by mixing words from two different languages in one sentence.

Can a language disorder exist in one language and not the other?

If a child is having difficulty in one language it will affect the second language as well.

On the other hand, if your child is developing normally in her first language but her English is still limited,

the problem is most likely a lack of opportunity to develop her English language skills. This may be the result of a recent move to an English-speaking country.

In this case, your child will require time, patience, and understanding. She might need to be encouraged to interact more with people who speak English.

In children with language delays (even severe language delays), there is no clear research to indicate that this child should only be exposed to one language.

Children who know more than one language have many communication benefits such as an awareness of how sounds form parts of words, and of different language systems. They develop a larger vocabulary and have a better understanding of how words sound and rhyme. This will help them when learning to write and spell.

Taken from: <http://www.sickkids.ca/KidsHealth/summer04vol5issue2/language.asp> ;
http://www.tpsls.on.ca/handout_twolanguages.htm

Research shows that children who are strongly proficient in their first language will become strongly proficient in English. They will also do better in reading."