



-Britannia OSC Newsletter Summer/Fall 2018



Welcome

A warm welcome to the **O**utdoor **R**ecreation and **C**reative **A**rts Program (**ORCA**). We continue to provide a safe, caring, respectful and inclusive environment for everyone. We will continue to promote the **Random Acts of Kindness** (RAK) and the **Play it Fair** programs (see pg. 3 for more program details).

CLOSURES ON THE FOLLOWING DATES: (WE ARE CLOSED ON ALL STAT HOLIDAYS)

- Canada Day Monday – July 2, 2018
- BC Day Monday – August 6, 2018
- Program Clean/Prep Friday – August 31, 2018
- Labour Day Monday – September 3, 2018

DAYS/HOURS OF OPERATION:

SCHOOL YEAR (September to June)
7:30 to 9:00 am Monday to Friday (Britannia School only)
3:00 to 5:45 pm Monday to Friday (Brit and QV)

SUMMER/SPRING/WINTER BREAK & PROFESSIONAL DAYS (drop off at centre between 7:30am - 10:30am)
7:30 to 5:45 pm

CLOSED all Public Statutory Holidays, in addition we are closed for one Staff **Pro-D** Day & one program clean day per year.

STAFF/CHILD RATIO:

- 1 staff member per 12 children in kindergarten to grade one.
- 1 staff member per 15 children grades 2 to 7.
- We have extra staffing to ensure that we include children who are in supported child care spaces.

SEND YOUR CHILD PREPARED!!

Being prepared for an active play program and the weather is important. When children come inadequately prepared for the program it impacts on their ability to participate. Here are some tips to consider in preparing your child:



- ✓ **PROPER FOOTWEAR:** Shoes that are closed toe are highly recommended. Foot wear protect children's feet from being injured while participating in the program. **Flip Flops** are impractical for our active play environment. They often break off the children's feet. While on field trips, **flip flops** become a **safety hazard** as children walk out of them, lose their footing, trip and/or have difficulty walking with the group. We have had children lose flip flops while walking, stopping to fix flip flops in the middle of crossing busy roads and entering/exiting public transit, which can be dangerous.



- ✓ **SUN PROTECTION:** Sunscreen and long sleeve breathable clothing are the best ways to protect the skin. We encourage all families to pre-sunscreen their children in the morning. Please send your child with extra sunscreen to reapply throughout the day. Another great sun protector is a hat. **Hats** help shield the face from the sun. **Clothing** is one of the best sun protectors on the market. Consider natural fibres that are light and breathable.



- ✓ **EXTRA CLOTHES:** Send **extra clothes**, especially on trips to the great outdoors just in case your child chooses to get wet and muddy when they play.



- ✓ **DRESS FOR THE WEATHER:** If the weather is rainy, please dress your child according. **We play in the rain!**

Division of Children

We have divided the children into two groups: Younger (grades K-2) and Older (grades 3-7). On full days we combine both groups in the morning between 7:30-10:30am and later afternoon after 3:30 pm.

For the summer ORCA program, we have fun and exciting activities planned. From exploring & learning about the environment; visual & creative arts; arts & crafts; working together; using our bodies in different ways; being creative and learning new things. We have lined up many great out-trips and activities please see our calendar for more details.



UPDATE YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION

In order to comply with Licensing we need parents/guardians to ensure that their child's records are up to date. If you have done any of the following:

- Changed your address
- Changed your phone number
- Changes in your child's health
- Changes to your child's custody access
- Immunization records

It is critical that you inform us ASAP in writing. You are always welcome to review and update your child's file. Please see a staff if you need to make any of the above changes.

NUT-FREE ZONE

Britannia Child Care is a **NUT-FREE ZONE** due to allergies; please ensure no nuts or nut products are sent to program with your child.



TOYS/ELECTRONICS/ CELL PHONES FROM HOME

Our program's focus is on **PLAY!** Through play children learn to navigate the world around them; socialization, cooperation, sharing and problem solving.

We ask that all toys and electronics stay home. We have a huge selection of toys and games. Children who have cell phones will need to keep the phones in their bags and are only allowed to use them with permission from staff. OSC is not responsible for lost/broken toys from home.

"Play is the lifeblood of childhood—it brings children joy, it nurtures creativity, it builds social skills, and it strengthens their bodies."

By Silken Lauman

STAFFING

CHILDREN ACTIVITY LEADER

ROBERT has been working in Child Care for over 15 years. He started working with children with Autism while studying at Langara College. He is a certified Education Assistant. Robert loves working in a diverse and ever-changing environment.



ELAINE has worked in a variety of positions at Britannia Community Centre. Elaine looks forward to working with all the children, new and old in utilizing her artistic and culinary skills. Elaine has her Fine Arts degree from Emily Carr University and presently is a member of the Britannia Arts and Cultural Committee.



ESTRELLA is a proud mother and a grandmother. She has her Early Childhood Education Certification. Estrella also works for the Vancouver School Board as a CTA 1. Estrella has supervised and coordinated the Kidsafe program at Grandview Elementary School. She also supervised the KidsFirst Project where she facilitated baking projects for students. She volunteers at Kiwassa Neighbourhood House, teaching ESL to new immigrants. Estrella has many years of experience working with children and families; "working with children is my passion".



AUXILIARY STAFF

PATRICIA has been at Britannia OSC since 2012 as a casual staff. She is joyful and shares her enthusiasm with our children. Patty volunteered for 8 years as a mentor with PLEA and was a Child Minding Assistant volunteer at the Grandview Terrace OSC program. Patty is adventurous and loves the outdoors. It is very rewarding to her to be a daily part of the children's preliminary education experiences. It is her purpose to make each day a great day for every child.



SHAMS has been working at Britannia Child Care as an Auxiliary since 2016. He has his Early Childhood Educator Assistant & Responsible Adult Certification. He is a certified soccer coach who is currently coaching a U10 soccer team at South Burnaby Metro Club. Shams enjoys utilizing his design, IT and engineering knowledge in creative child care projects. He strongly believes in guiding and caring with respect and empathy. Shams loves to work with children and considers fun with kindness, compassion and safety as the priority for a good child care environment.



MERANDA is originally from Thailand; she has been in Canada since 2013. She completed her Early Childhood Education Assistant certification in Canada in 2014. She has over 10 years of child care experience, internationally. Meranda has worked at many child care centres in Vancouver, with both toddlers and school age children. She enjoys working with all ages of children



DAVID is a licensed Early Childhood Educator who has been involved in Child Care for over 19 years, working in such environments as Preschools, Out Of School Care, cruise ships and the great outdoors. His favourite part of working with children is their genuine excitement in discovering new things, and their openness and ability to be in the present moment. Children are great teachers and he keeps learning a lot by being in their presence. David strives to bring his compassion and empathy into the classroom so that he can help support and encourage the children to feel good about who they are and what they are doing.



RANDI has been at Britannia Child Care for over 30 years. She is now retired and we are very happy to have her back for our summer program. She has a background in various forms of Art, dance, Theatre, puppetry, and storytelling. She has worked as an outdoor adventure guide for Britannia adults and youth programs. She looks forward to working with all the wonderful families.



PROGRAM COOK

SHIRLDENE has been working as a cook for the past few years and held the first Britannia OSC summer cooking school for children. It was a great success. Shirdene also facilitated the garden mosaic project for the garden located beside the preteen room.



SENIOR SUPERVISOR

(Britannia Preschool and OSC)

LORRAINE completed the Child and Youth Care Counseling (CYCC) program at Douglas College and third year CYCC courses at the University of Victoria. She has completed countless hours of professional development courses in the CYC and ECE field. In addition to coordinating and planning many events, Lorraine has been at Britannia for many years and is honored to work in such a diverse, exciting and ever changing environment. She looks forward to getting to know all of your beautiful children.



MANAGER OF CHILD CARE SERVICES

RACHEL DAY is our Child Care Manager at Britannia Community Services. She has been with us since March 2017. Rachel manages and supports the five independent Child Care societies within the Hub, Britannia Child Care, Eagles in the Sky, Lord Nelson Out of School care, Mount Pleasant Child Care and Grandview Child Care centre.



Rachel comes to Britannia with over 25 years' experience in the education and child care field. Rachel brings much experience and success in teaching, leadership and management, staff training, coaching & developing teams, program design, maximizing centre performance and community development. She has much experience in working with non-profit and school boards. Rachel is highly knowledgeable about child care and is passionate about the important role it plays for our future citizens and communities.

Rachel lives on the North Shore with her husband and two daughters aged nine and twelve. She is an avid kickboxer, loves singing and enjoys the outdoors.



"Being kind is never wasted."

OSC ENTRANCE DOORS

We ask all families **NOT to open the door for others**. Please call a staff person to do

so in order to ensure that staff can keep track of all those who enter and exit. All children must leave with their authorized person to safeguard custody agreements. Having staff open the door ensures that proper identification occurs and that staff are aware that a child has been picked up and signed out. **Please make sure you sign your child out; children are not allowed to sign themselves out.**



PLAY IT FAIR!

Play It Fair! Toolkit



The ORCA program will be using the Play It Fair- Human Rights Education Toolkit for Children throughout the summer months and beyond. All RPT staff has been trained and will incorporate activities each day.

What is the goal of the Toolkit?

The Toolkit helps to promote **human rights, nondiscrimination** and **peaceful conflict resolution** within non-formal education programs for children, such as summer camps or after school activities.

What are the values promoted by the Toolkit?

The Toolkit helps to reinforce the positive values that derive from the fundamental principles of human dignity and equality contained in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The human rights values promoted by the Toolkit are:

- **Cooperation**
 - **Respect**
 - **Fairness**
 - **Inclusion**
- **Respect for diversity**
- **Responsibility**
- **Acceptance**

Excerpt from Play It Fair Human Rights Education Tool Kit For Children

RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS

“RAK4Kids is a social emotional learning (SEL) program that creates a common language among mentors and kids with kindness concepts. SEL is important in developing respectful, responsible, and caring kids and mentors who know themselves, express and manage their emotions, and relate well to others. Put simply, SEL helps kids understand who they are, how they feel, and how they get along with others.”

© The Random Acts of Kindness Foundation, 2015 | Educator Guide

Using the curriculum from the Random Acts of Kindness throughout our programming, our goal is to continue to create an environment of mindful interactions with each other; Integrations of kindness, sharing, respectfulness, thoughtfulness and inclusion. By understanding what our rights are, we respect the rights of others despite our differences

RANDOM ACTS OF
KINDNESS.



DONATIONS OF TOWELS AND SWIMSUITS ARE GREATLY APPRECIATED. SWIMSUITS AND TOWELS ARE WASHED AFTER EACH USE.

FEES

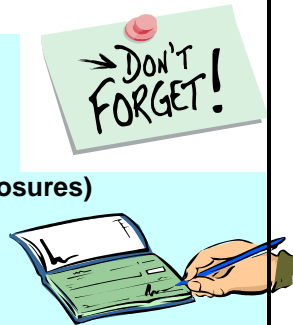
Summer (Jul-Aug)

Full time \$550
Weekly \$150

School Year (Sep-Jun)

(Fees are inclusive for all school closures)

Full time \$355
(4 days is the same cost as full time)
3 days \$230
2 days \$210



To apply or renew your subsidy contact the Child Care Subsidy Service Center at 1 888 338-6622.

You can pay for your child care fees at the Britannia Information Centre by CREDIT, DEBIT or CASH.

CHILD CARE STAFF ARE NOT ALLOWED TO TAKE CASH

You can also have your payments deducted from your personal bank account on the 1st of each month.

SIGN UP FOR PAD (Pre Authorized debit)

Forms for PAD are located on the parent bulletin board in the child care room.

PAD is only available for school year fees (Sept – Jun).

Your monthly fees enable the program to operate. There are substantial costs to running a quality child care program and we hope that you are satisfied and happy with the care and learning that your children receive.

**One month's written notice on the last day of the calendar month is required to change your child's registered days. (Limited part time spaces available)*

** One month's written notice, on the last day of the calendar month, is required when withdrawing your child from the program or one month's fee payment in lieu of one month's notice.*

For families on subsidy, your subsidy will be billed for the entire month.

Families are provided receipts, for all payments, at time of payment. We do not issue year-end tax receipts. Please keep your receipts for your taxes. A \$25 fee is charged for duplicates of receipts. For families on Pre-authorized account debit (PAD) payments, receipts will be issued for January to June months in June; and for September to December in January. PAD is not available during the summer months. PAD is only valid for the school year - September to June. A new PAD form is required with VOID cheque for each school year at time of registration.

HOW TO CONTACT US

DIRECT LINES

5 – 8 Room 604-718-5822 (voicemail)
Preteen Room 604-718-5839 (No voice mail)
Supervisor 604-718-5843 (voicemail)



For all messages regarding child attendance, pick-up schedule changes etc., please call: 604-718-5822.

Staff will check messages daily to ensure we know of any children are absent or if there are changes regarding pick-up.

To contact the **Senior Supervisor** (for other inquires) Call 604.718.5843 or email **Lorraine at lorraine.evans@vancouver.ca**

LOVE AND KINDNESS ARE NEVER WASTED.
THEY ALWAYS MAKE A DIFFERENCE.
—Helen James

DURING THE SCHOOL YEAR

PLEASE CALL THE CENTRE IF YOUR CHILD WILL NOT BE ATTENDING THE PROGRAM.

We follow our missing child procedure, which can lead to and include calling 911. We are unable to take the VSB's word that your child was picked up or not from school. Please ensure you call 604.718.5822 every time your child will not be attending OSC.



SCHOOL YEAR 2018

For families registered for September 2018, on the first day of school, we will be open for the full day. We will pick up children at Britannia and Queen Victoria schools at 10am. During the school year, morning care is only provided for children that attend Britannia Elementary school.

SCHOOL CLOSURE DAYS

PLEASE REMEMBER TO BE AT THE CENTRE BY 10:30AM AND TO PACK A NUT- FREE LUNCH.

**Drop off at the Preteen (Spirit Bear) room (located beside library)

**Pick up your child at the Child Care room (located by Grandview Park).

If you plan on dropping off after 10:30am please check with staff to ensure we will be able to accommodate.

MEDICATION

As we move into full days for the summer, some families may need us to administer medication. Staff are only allowed to administer medication when the parent/guardian has signed and filled our centre's medication consent form. The medication must come in the original container with the doctor's prescription on the bottle. For store bought medication parent/guardian are required to get a doctor's prescription label on the bottle. Our centre policy does not allow any staff to administer non-prescription medication.

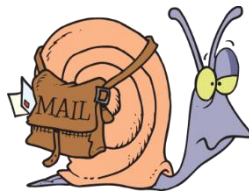
SIGN IN & OUT



Reminder to sign in/out when you drop and pick up your child each day. The sign in & out clipboard is located at the child care entrance door. We also ask that only adults sign in and out each day.

PARENT MAIL SLOT

Each family has been assigned a mail slot. The mail pouch is located on the child care office glass window. Each pouch is labelled with your child's first name. Please check the mail slot weekly. You will receive your receipts, program calendar and important messages here.



Kindness Definition: Kindness means being friendly, generous or considerate to ourselves and others through our words and actions. The Random Acts of Kindness Foundation, 2014

BODY SCIENCE

The Britannia Child Care values safety, caring, respect and inclusion for everyone. We recognize that as children develop they have a natural curiosity to learn about themselves and others. Using this curiosity, we want to cultivate healthy relationships in our vibrant communities, empowering children to be safe and educated about body science.

As part of our continuum of education for staff and parents/guardian around body science and sexual health, we are now offering the child friendly version for the children that is age appropriate and in line with the BC Health and Career Education curriculum (explore new curriculum here: <https://goo.gl/nSHgvA>).

Jessica facilitated the Child Care staff development workshop in April 2018. She also facilitated the two Parent Nights Workshops on "Askable Adult" & "Kids, Body Science & Sexual Health Education" all held in April and May 2018. Jessica will be in to do workshops with the children. She will cover topics:

- ✓ **Safety** – e.g. having a safe adult to seek guidance from, being free from physical, emotional, offline or online abuse, and access to age appropriate content.
- ✓ **Science** – e.g. the understanding of the human body, sex in biological terms, and where to access reliable, well researched, and reputable information.
- ✓ **Self** – e.g. critical thinking skills, healthy decision making, standing up for oneself and others, and understanding what true consent looks like and feels like

Jessica is a certified teacher and sexual health educator. She has worked with children and youth since 1995 and has experience teaching both typical and diverse learners. She has become known for her sense of humour and ability to stimulate much-needed conversation surrounding body science, sexual health, and healthy relationships. Jessica's education, personal experience as a parent, and professional experience as a teacher, has contributed to a well-rounded approach to teaching sexual health and ed

Jessica Wollen BA, BEd, Certified Teacher and Sexual Health Educator, Owner of Shift Education Inc.

For more information on Jessica Wollen, please visit <http://shift-education.com/>. Please contact Lorraine if you have any further questions about the program.



Photos taken by Robert Lee and Barry Skillin