

SEPTEMBER

News



TEACHER'S REPORT

WELCOME TO PRESCHOOL

We are happy to welcome new and returning families to our preschool. We look forward to working together to create a positive start to school for our students and families. You will receive a monthly newsletter including a calendar of events for the year. Please note there may be changes made with the interests of the students throughout the year.

Our first few weeks we will focus on learning daily routines, safety guidelines and settling into the classroom. September will also be about getting to know each other and our families. We ask that you bring in a **photo of your family no larger than a 4x6**. Each class will create an album for the children to introduce their family during show and care and look through at any time.

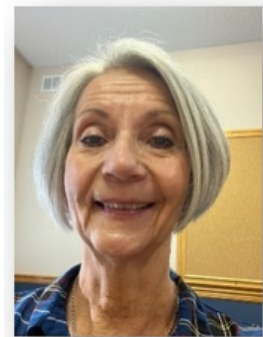
Please familiarize yourself with the contents of the Parent Handbook provided at registration. You will find it full of valuable information regarding snack requirements, sickness policy, discipline, and parent volunteer duties. These items will also be covered during orientation days including the Alberta Health guidelines to help keep us all safe.

Mrs. Karen Bolt will be teaching Monday to Thursday classes. Mrs. Bruce will be teaching the Friday class and, in the office other days with Administration duties. Our Education Assistants this year are Kolbi Pfeifer, Jade Mitchell, Jessica Lepp, and new to our team, we welcome Katrina Viksush.

As teachers our goal is to best prepare your child for the world in which they will function in their later years. We provide a warm, happy, and enriching environment, where the children are free to develop and grow, physically, mentally, and emotionally at their own individual pace. The skills and habits that your child will acquire in the classroom will last a lifetime, and will help to develop a good base, socially and intellectually.



MEET THE EDUCATORS



Mrs. Anita Bruce
Teacher / Administrator

Anita Bruce has been employed by the Brooks Preschool as Teacher/Administrator for the past 25 years. She received her certificate in Early Learning and Child Care training through Bow Valley College, along with a certificate in Life Skills Training. She is involved in leadership, policy development, promoting early learning, and programming and professional development provision.

Anita is a mother of 4 children and has 7 grandchildren. Her community involvement includes the Brooks/County of Newell Early Childhood Development Committee, Children's, and Care Ministries in her local church BEFC.

It is her ongoing desire to provide an enriching, safe and fun learning environment where each child is valued. She is passionate about early childhood education and believes that we are touching the future when we invest in our children as mighty learners.



Mrs. Karen Bolt
Teacher

Karen has been employed with the Brooks Preschool the last few years. She will be teaching the Monday through Thursday classes this year.

She has an education with a Level 3 in Early Childhood Education as well as experience in day cares, a day home and with the SPEC Association.

She is married with 2 children and has a dog named Pippin. In her spare time, she enjoys reading, kayaking, and snowshoeing.

Karen looks forward in building relationships with each child and their families, as well as seeing them grow as mighty learners in our school environment.



MEET THE EDUCATORS



Kolbi Pfeifer
Education Assistant

Kolbi Pfeifer has been employed by the Brooks Preschool as Education Assistant for the past year. She decided to get into Early Childhood Education because it brings her joy to watch the children play, learn, and grow.

Kolbi was raised on a farm just outside of Brooks. She has been married to Brent for 10 years, have two amazing sons and a sweet little girl.

When she's not working at the preschool, she's usually with friends and family, or going on fun adventures with her children. She enjoys family time, hunting, and going to the gym. A lot of her extra time is either spent at the hockey rink watching her boys play hockey or at her parent's farm. Where her mom and Kolbi raise chickens, turkeys, and bottle calves. She also enjoys helping her dad with whatever he needs help with, whether it be farming or working with cattle.



Jade Mitchell
Education Assistant

This is Jade's second year being employed by the Brooks Preschool as an Education Assistant.

Jade was born and raised in Brooks. She is married and has 2 great kids. She enjoys spending time with my children and family swimming, watching movies, and playing cards and board games and cards.

She completed her level 1 in early childhood development in 2022 and is super excited to be working with your children to become wonderful mighty learners. Having the opportunity to be a part of the Brooks Preschool Team is extraordinary.



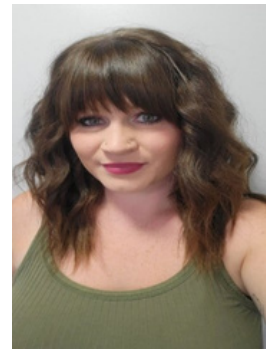
MEET THE EDUCATORS

Jessica Lepp **Education Assistant**

Jessica is a wife and the mother to 3 beautiful children whom she spends her majority of time with. She loves to take them on adventures and make memories whenever possible, but they also love to relax and watch movies. In her free time, she loves to bake and cook.

Jessica moved to Brooks shortly after graduating high school and has enjoyed exploring and getting to know the local communities.

She is a Level 1 Early Childhood Educator and is so excited to be part of such a fun team and watch the children grow, learn, play, and explore new ideas.



Katrina Viksush **Education Assistant**

We welcome Katrina in her first year to the Brooks Preschool as a Level 1 Early Childhood Educator.

Her and her husband have a teenage daughter and a preteen son. Together their family live on a hobby farm and raise a few types of animals. They like to stay active in their spare time and enjoy camping, hiking, fishing, gardening and just generally spending time together having family game or movie nights.

Katrina looks forward to the time she will be spending with your child(ren) and is excited to be by their side in their education adventure.



BACK TO school

Here is an outline of daily activities for a typical day in our Preschool:

3.5 hr. Class

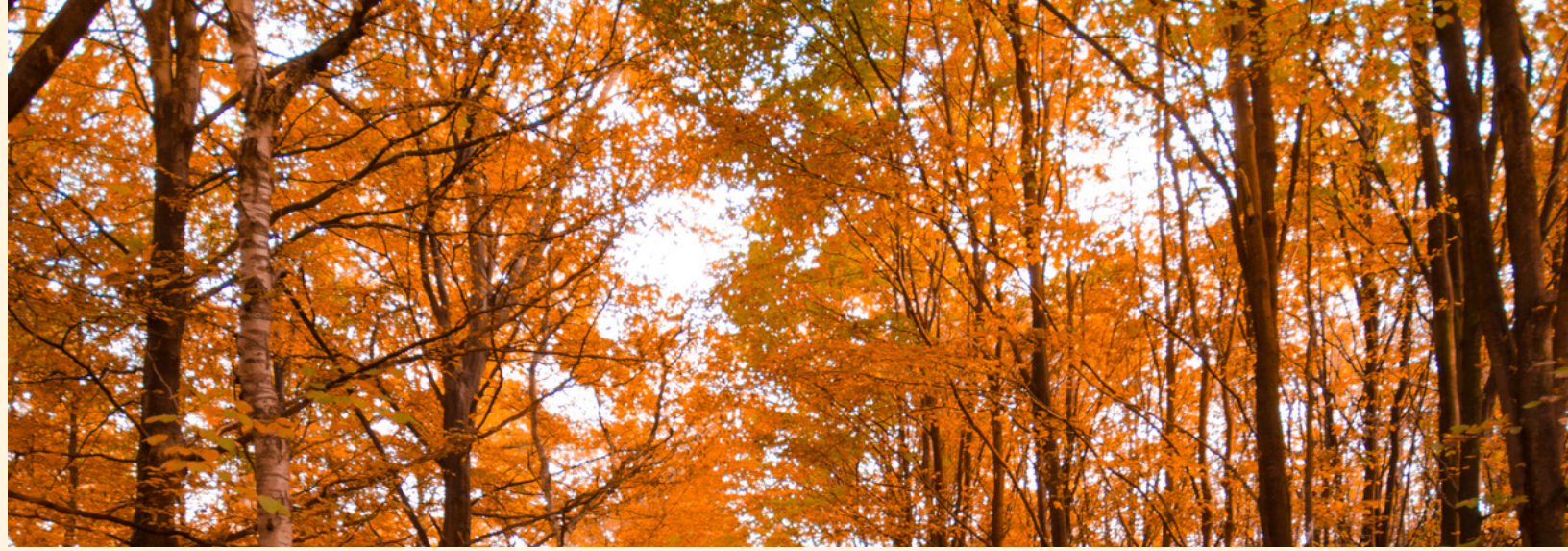
- 8:15 am** Doors Open (Sign In & Name Tags)
Wash hands/Free Play/Art/Discovery
- 10:15 am** Cleanup/Topics/Interests of the Day
Story/Transition Activity/Wash hands
- 10:35 am** Snack & Clean up
- 11:10 am** Gathering Time/Skill building
(show & tell, songs & games)
- 11:30 am** Gross Motor/Music & Movement
(Outside, Weather Permitting)
- 12:00 pm** Home Time (Sign Out)



ARRIVING AT PRESCHOOL: Each preschooler will have a cubby coat hook area assigned to them in the hall. Children can place their personal belongings there while they are in class, and this is where artwork and notices will be placed for collection by parents. REMEMBER to sign your child IN and Out on the attendance sheet near the office.

WAYS TO PREPARE

- Talk positively about preschool. If your child sees that you like preschool, he or she will be more apt to develop positive feelings about school too.
- Place a photo in your child's snack as a surprise and a reminder of how much you care.
- By saying something like "Have fun, I'll be back soon, and you can tell me all about what you did today," you can make the transition much easier.
- Say good-bye lovingly yet quickly and cheerful, even if your child is tearful. Always reassure your child that you will be back at the end of preschool time.
- Talk with your child's teacher and discuss any concerns. We will be happy to work with you to make the most of your child's preschool experience.



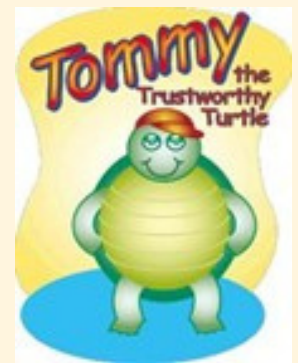
CHARACTER EDUCATION

The "Six Pillars of Character" are **Trustworthiness, Respect, Responsibility, Fairness, Caring, and Citizenship**, and then under each of those, there are many "sub-pillars" like cheerfulness, friendliness, forgiveness, sharing, kindness, helpfulness, honesty, courtesy, and so on.

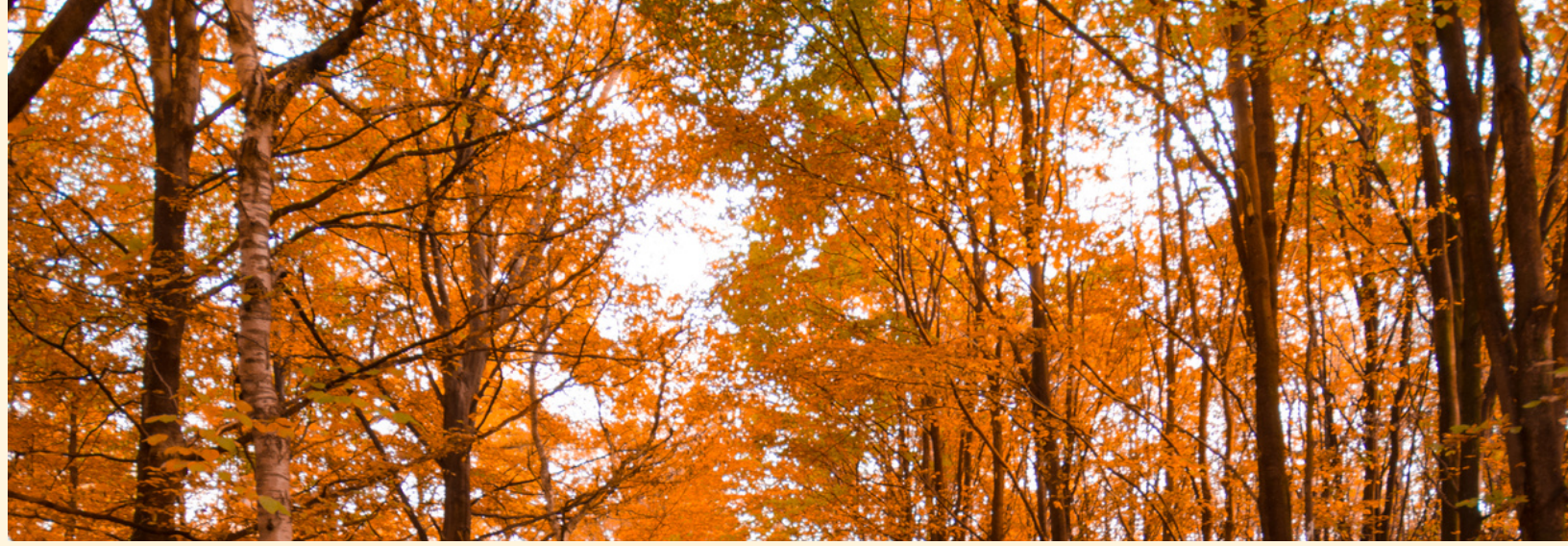
TRUSTWORTHINESS

Your preschooler will meet Tommy the Trustworthy Turtle and be encouraged through stories, songs and activities to:

- Tell the truth
- Follow the rules
- Not take things that don't belong to him
- Do what he says he'll do--keep his promises



When you think about teaching your children to be trustworthy, you must remember it does not happen overnight. Instead, trustworthiness and good character are something you should model for your children every day because you are the most important teacher your child will ever have.



SPECIAL DAYS

Sept. 27, 28 and 29th Nature Walks

Weather permitting classes will be going on a fall walk. We will be either going around the block for last 30 minutes of the day, or to a park on 5th Street West leaving 9:10 -10:10 a.m. The children will take a bathroom break and get a drink of water before leaving. We will discover the changes to our earth, leaves, and other fall items. Families are welcome to join in.



PRIVATE FACEBOOK PAGE

Ask to join the private Facebook pages your child is registered in, speak to Mrs. Bruce Teacher/Administrator or Adrienne Cox (Chairperson of the Board of Directors)



HELLO
September

LITTLE REMINDERS

- **Parents** please let teachers know of any changes in phone numbers, addresses or medical concerns. We need to keep information current.
- **For the safety of all student's parent helper/volunteer at Brooks Preschool is required to submit a Criminal Record Check before working with the students.**
- **Respecting Privacy:** we ask that you respect students by not posting pictures that include other children on social medias such as Facebook, Instagram, etc. unless you have the parent's permission to do so.
- **Fire Safety/Licensing Regulations** – Shoes/slippers must be worn at all times while at Preschool. It is also a regulation that no hot drinks (coffee, tea, hot chocolate, etc.) are allowed in the Preschool, during school hours.
- **Doors at the preschool** we will open 8:15 a.m for staggered entrance. Pick up times are 12:00 noon **doors will remain locked until then.** If you need to pick up your child earlier, please ring the doorbell.
- **Parent Volunteer Days** – Please make sure arrangements are made for siblings if you volunteer. Again, due to licensing regulations, other children in the class will change our adult to child ratio.
- **Signing up for Volunteer Days-** We have made a change to volunteer days. Please watch for the sign up sheet during orientation to sign up for the days you are able to volunteer.

