



## CEO and Teacher's Report

It has been a great year and it has gone by so quickly. The children have all benefited from their preschool experience. Those that did not say a word for a long time are speaking up now, telling stories, singing songs, asking for a turn and just generally letting everyone know what they want to do. Others who played by themselves along side of others are playing together now. We often hear the children making up their own scenarios, such as "let's have a tea party" or "you be the mom and I be the dad". We get to stand back more and just watch the interactions between the children. As new families are coming in to have a look around, we are reminded of how little the children were when they started school and how much they have grown in many different ways.

Our last month has been busy. Mother's Day Tea our big event of the year and it went very well. Moms, we hope you enjoyed yourself as much as the children and we did getting ready for the 'big' day. The trip to the farm was a lot of fun even though the weather was not the best. The children enjoyed running around outside, having a ride in the wagon and playing with the puppy. The concept of Mrs. Kralt actually living there is still a mystery to many. One day during our bathroom routine, they wanted to know "where was my shower or bathtub". Teachers live at the school, didn't you know that?

There are many different things you can do with your children over the summer. They enjoy play dates with their friends which can be very simple. You can just go to the park or the splash pad. Children love having picnics. Remember it does not have to be fancy or a lot of work to be fun. The smallest and the simplest things are often the best.



Thank you for entrusting your children to us this year. Enjoy your summer with your children; they grow up way too fast.

Have a great summer! We will be seeing you around town and best wishes for the future.

*The Teachers*

Reminders:

1. The last day of school is also a special day. It will be **on Friday, May 28** from 10:00-2:00. It will be a Picnic at Winona Park on Barton Street. Bring your lawn chairs and picnic lunch; come out with the whole family and enjoy your day.
2. Have a safe and enjoyable summer!
3. Registration Week: August 30<sup>th</sup> to September 3<sup>rd</sup> from 9:00 to 12:00

Summer Birthdays:

**June**  
Nicolle -6  
Ryan -10  
Jane - 11  
William -22  
Noah -23  
Eva -27  
Julian -27



**August**  
Tate -2  
Carlo -2  
Brianna- 16  
Luca - 29

Board Report

**From the board...**

Firstly a big thank you to all the committee heads and their members.

- Maintenance - Alison Puhl
- Social & Fundraising - Sarah Holland and Carey Gibson
- Telephone/Craft Committee - Heather Verrall
- Newsletter - Amanda Brum and David Park

You all do an amazing job with your committee and your time and efforts are very much appreciated by everyone here at the Preschool. A big thank you as well, to the committee members for all of your hard work with cleaning, baking, crafts and playdoh making. It is really lovely to see everyone doing their part to make the Preschool a success!

May has been packed with many enjoyable events starting with the Mother's Day Tea and trip to Mrs. Kralt's. The tea was a lovely morning, watching the children recite their songs and giving the Mothers such meaningful gifts. Great fun was had by all at Mrs Kralt's and we anticipate a fabulous time at our Year End events also.

It is so hard to believe that there is only one week of classes left at the Preschool. We have enjoyed representing you, the families for the past 9 months as we have presided on the Board. It has also been wonderful to watch the children grow, learn and form lasting friendships.

We currently have 31 children enrolled for September, with spots still available. Please pass along our information to anyone that may be interested in having their child attend our school as spots fill up quickly over the summer.

Although it is with sadness that we move on, we know this will soon be replaced by the excitement of attending 'big school'. And it's nice to know that as our children learn and grow, so do we!

For those of you moving on, we wish you all the best in this next year's schooling adventure. For those of you returning, we as a Board encourage you to get involved in any way you can at Grimsby Co-Operative. Volunteering in the classroom is a wonderful way to participate, as is filling a Board Position. There are six different Board positions, each offering a unique portfolio. Along with the satisfaction of making a difference at the Preschool, comes the bonus of a 25% reduction in fees. Here are brief descriptions of the roles.

### **President**

Any person interested in this position would need to have a good handle on being organized, as there can be many different tasks to be completed at one point in time. The President presides over the Executive committee, which includes the CEO. The main responsibilities of this role are to liaise with the CEO on the management of the Preschool, while keeping communication open with each Board Member and supporting them in fulfilling their duties, maintaining a good relationship with the personnel at the Church and responding to the various requirements of the Niagara Region. This role can be busy, but for the proactive individual it is certainly manageable! The ability to quickly assimilate new information along with having strong communication and decision-making skills are an asset. Any person in this position would need to be able to get along with and manage many different types of personalities. Each Board Member holds an important stake in the Preschool as their child(ren) are personally involved in the everyday happenings at the school.

### **Vice President,**

The main responsibilities as VP are; advertising, events, PR and obtaining press exposure for the preschool. The advertising takes place when it is necessary for the preschool, and our main source is the Grimsby Lincoln News. However this year we have developed good relationships with the Ontario Early Years Centres, Play Groups and Play Centres in the area. They have been very accommodating and supportive of the Preschool.

Events are run throughout the year along side the wonderful events run by the teachers themselves. VP is responsible for the organization of the Christmas Party and Valentines Social as well as the end of year events. All take a lot of time and hard work, but are extremely rewarding when you can see how much enjoyment the children and their families are having.

It is also extremely important to obtain regular press coverage for the preschool. We have been very fortunate to work with some proactive people at the Grimsby Lincoln News, who cover a large percentage of our events.

### **Recording Secretary**

As Recording Secretary you would be responsible for attending the spring and fall general meetings as well as a monthly scheduled board meeting and recording the minutes for each of those meetings. The minutes are then compiled and emailed to the President where changes will

be noted and completed by the Recording Secretary. *A term on the board runs from October to October and meetings are usually only 2-3 hours.* You may also be asked on occasion to assist with other paperwork as needed. You would also be required to attend and assist with any school functions. This position would be well suited for anyone as it provides a great opportunity to be involved with the school without requiring a huge number of working hours.

### **Treasurer**

The Treasurer, along with the President and CEO, prepares a budget and submits it for approval to the Board, membership and region. Being Treasurer means always knowing what transactions are coming in and out of the Preschool's accounts. With this in mind, the Treasurer is able to provide accurate forecasts at each Board meeting and General meeting. In conjunction with the Bookkeeper, the Treasurer makes sure that the monthly financial statements are completed in a timely manner and are accurate, providing updates to the Board at each monthly meeting.

### **Fundraising Chair**

To successfully be Fundraiser Chair, access to a computer is key, as is familiarity with programs such as Excel, which enable you to keep charts up to date. Good communication skills are important as the Fundraising Chair has to make all the arrangements for each and every fundraiser event planned throughout the year.

Being organized prior to the start of the school year is key so that each event is set in place with confirmed dates. Before each event, a call approximately one week ahead to the Company to make sure everything is on track is very important. You will need the help of your committee for certain fundraiser events, so please make sure and use them for what they have volunteered to do. In addition, the Fundraising Chair is responsible for keeping updated and accurate details on what has been raised by each family and is able to provide this to a family upon request, in a timely manner.

### **Membership Chair**

Responsibilities as chair for this position include receiving and processing all registration applications, as well as maintaining a database of all members and supplying the Supervisor with up to date emergency contact info.

Another main role of this position is to supply completed immunization/health forms to the regional health department, as well as keeping up to date ministry files. This position also requires help at the annual Open House (late February), and to assist the CEO with orientation of new families.

In the beginning of August the Membership Chair sends out a letter to all registered families stating and including information about starting school, date of registration, fee schedule and including a nomination form for Board Members for election at the September general meeting.

Please contact Martha Kralt or me MaryBeth Wist [wist05@yahoo.ca](mailto:wist05@yahoo.ca) or 289.235.8460 if you are interested in learning more about Board positions.

Thank you again and we wish you all a safe, and fun summer.

MaryBeth Wist - President, Clare Thomas - Vice President, Blair Gentle - Treasurer  
April Juhlke - Secretary, Dana Crittenden - Membership.

## Good Bye and Farewell

Thank you, Mrs. Bujas for all your help and teaching expertise over the past years. The children and the staff are going to miss you.

Enjoy your second retirement!



### A Message to the Preschool Families from Mrs. Diana Bujas

For those of you who do not yet know, I have decided to retire from the Preschool. It was not an easy decision as I have thoroughly enjoyed sharing your children with you. I love being at the Preschool but I believe it is time to move on and to 'retire' again.

I wish to thank all of the families, past and present, who have made my time at Grimsby Cooperative Preschool a most pleasant and gratifying experience.

My time with the Preschool has been wonderful! It was an easy fit for me to join in with the teachers, children and their families. Everyone welcomed me, made me feel a part of their family and showed respect and kindness towards me. I thoroughly enjoyed playing the 'Grandma' role.

I would like to think that I have added to the Preschool both professionally and personally. Each day brought new adventures and rewards as we interacted with the children and their families. I have learned a lot from my teacher friends and I thank them for that. I will miss them on a daily basis.

Thank you for your support over the past few years.