Blue Elephant Daycare 1322 Hurontario Street Mississauga, ON L5G 3H3

January 2015

Dear Parents:

Happy New year to you and your families.

Placement Students:

We would like to welcome returning placement student Samantha Mastrocola from University of Guelph/Humber as she continues her placement in the Toddler Room. Also, we will be having two Sheridan students doing their placement in the Junior Room and Senior Room respectively. They are Daniella Viera and Felicia Barker. They will be here every Thursday and Friday starting January 29. 2015. Their last day will be April 20, 2015. Accepting Early Childhood Educator placement students from Colleges and Universities provide our staff with a mentorship role that develops leadership skills.

Blue Elephant License

Our program advisor from Ministry of Education visited us on December 29, 2014 for renewal of license. The licensing visit went very well. We received a lot of positive feedback from the Ministry on our program, nutrition, staff interactions with children and day care management and administration. I would like to thank all Blue Elephant staff for providing optimum quality care for our children. We should be getting our license in the mail shortly.

Raising the Bar in Peel

We are continuing to participate in the quality initiative – Raising the Bar in Peel. If you would like more information on this initiative, please contact <u>info@rtbpeel.ca</u> or visit <u>www.cdrcp.com</u>.

Fundraiser – Say it with chocolates on Valentine Day

Blue Elephant Daycare would like to have a fundraising event. We decided to go with "World's Finest Chocolate" as our fundraising company. This company is proudly based in Campbellford, Ontario since 1958. This company has been servicing many schools in their fundraising goals.

We did a fundraiser in 2013 with the same company and our goal was \$1500. We raised \$700. We are keeping the same goal of \$1500. We hope to raise funds close to our targeted goal.

When you purchase "World's Finest Chocolate" to support your local fundraiser (Blue Elephant Daycare), you are also supporting fellow working Canadians. These chocolates are the freshest and not available at retail.

From the profit we receive, we would like to purchase a variety of materials as follows:

Mirror Block – Cost is \$199.
Toddler Wagon - \$105.99
Lil' Wagon - \$34.99
Discovery cubes- \$69.99
Toddler Blocks -\$89.99
Smartmax - \$59.99 (magnetic discovery set)
Corrugated Blocks - \$45.99
Stacking rainbow pyramid - \$27.99
Giant Sorting board set - \$59.99
Toddler Costume Set - \$139.99 (10 costumes)
Shatter resistant mirror - \$59.99
Measure Me Mirror- \$69.99
Basic Furniture Set (couches) - \$279.99

Hoops - \$24.99 each – would like to purchase of 8 of these durable hoops.

All chocolates are nut free and \$3 a bar. Your child is going home with a box that contains 30 units in a case. Attached is a form to track sale of chocolates and \$ amount. We accept cash payments or cheques which should be made out to Blue Elephant daycare noting fundraiser on the cheque.

The deadline for return of unsold chocolates as well as the tracking form and money needs to be returned by February 13, 2015. to Rose or Mrs. Dourado.

It is your responsibility to ensure that the return of chocolates unsold are in good condition and the right amount. Also, it will be your responsibility to pay for any missing chocolate bars. We ask for your cooperation in making this fundraiser work so that we can purchase items on our wish list.

Thanks so much for your support

Winter wear

Please ensure that your child comes with proper winter wear – snow pants, warm jacket, winter boots, water proof mittens and winter hat. Water proof mittens are recommended as they go outdoors an hour in the morning and again up to an hour in the afternoon.

ANAPHYLAXIS POLICY AND POLICY ON NO FOODS FROM OUTSIDE UNLESS YOUR CHILD HAS A SPECIAL DIETARY NEED

We would like to strongly remind parents to adhere to our Anaphylaxis policy and our policy on no foods from the outside unless your child has a special dietary need. We have noticed Reese wrappers in our Cubby (contains peanuts). We have two children in our Centre that have a nut allergy. **As stated in Blue Elephant Policy and Procedures binder, parent handbook as well as in our staff policy manual,** anaphylaxis is a serious allergic reaction and can be life threatening. The allergy may be related to food, insect stings, medicine, latex, etc. The anaphylaxis policy is intended to help support the needs of a child or staff with a severe allergy and provide information to staff and parents.

It has also been observed that some children are bringing in food in their hands when coming into the daycare with their parent in the morning. As you are aware, we do provide a snack in the morning. Morning snack is between 8:30 a.m. and 9 a.m. It your child missed having a snack during this time, please inform the class teacher and we will make sure your child is given a snack.

WE ARE ALL PART OF THE STRATEGY TO REDUCE THE RISK OF EXPOSURE TO ANAPHYLACTIC CAUSING AGENTS. PLEASE HELP KEEP OUR CHILDREN SAFE. THANK YOU.

Policy on Ill Health

We would like to remind you that if your child shows signs of ill health (ie: fever, diarrhea, unknown rash, vomiting etc), please keep your child home so that we limit the spread of germs at our Centre. We appreciate your cooperation and understanding in keeping all our children healthy.

Christine Dourado, RECE Director