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Winter Newsletter 2018

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Dates to remember

An 'awesome' evening with PLASP and Neil Pasricha



PLASP's 2017 Annual Parent and Community Meeting, held at the International Centre, was a tremendous success. 1,000 parents, staff and community guests attended the event on Monday, October 30, 2017.

Neil Pasricha, a Harvard MBA, New York Times bestselling author, and award-winning blogger provided the keynote. Pasricha spoke about how parents can create positive and productive environments at home for their children by taking ownership of their own positive mindset. He spoke about the "Big 7" ways to be happy right now, providing suggestions that included taking at least three walks each week, carrying out random acts of kindness, completely 'unplugging' to have downtime after work, and documenting the things you're grateful for each week. Pasricha's uplifting message left the audience with smiles on their faces

PLASP CEO **Lynn Hiebert**, spoke about



Upcoming P.A. Days and March Break Camp:

Friday, February 9, 2018:

- Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board
- Peel District School Board

Friday, February 16, 2018:

- Toronto Catholic District School Board
- Toronto District School Board

Friday, April 27th, 2018:

- Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board

March Break Camp (Select Locations)

- March 12th-16th, 2018

Holiday/Program Closures

PLASP programs, Early Learning and Child Care Centres and head office will be closed for the following holidays:

Family Day: Monday, February 19th, 2018

Good Friday: Friday, March 30th, 2018

Easter Monday: Monday, April 2nd, 2018

PLASP Before and After School Closures:

March Break: March 12th-16th, 2018

Roberta Bondar Closures:

Mid-Winter Break: February 12th-16th, 2018

Spring Break: March 12th-23rd, 2018

Mentor College Closures:

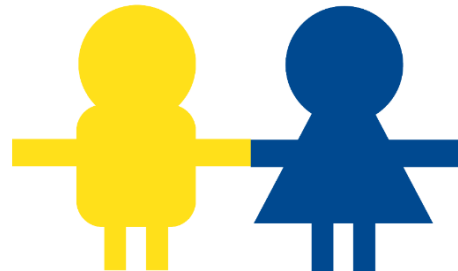
Mid-Winter Break: February 16th-19th, 2018

Spring Break: March 12th-23rd, 2018

Confirmation and registration for

PLASP's strategic plan, and mission: Supporting families by providing high quality licensed early learning and child care – where children thrive and want to be. Children who start with PLASP as toddlers, and stay with PLASP until middle school spend 2,500 days of learning, growth and development with us. Said Lynn, “this new mission and updated plan allows us to focus on what’s important, and has always been - children are at the centre of everything we do.”

PLASP introduces transgender policy and training to all staff



We were excited to welcome guest speaker Rogue Witterick from The 519 to our December regional meetings as part of our training on our Human Rights Policy and Accommodation of Transgender Individuals Policy. Rogue shared with staff about the importance of creating welcoming spaces in PLASP programs, where “people can find themselves represented and reflected and where they understand that all people are treated with respect and dignity” (from Creating Authentic Spaces, www.the519.org).

Rogue also talked with staff about gender affirmation and the difference between gender-specific and gender-neutral pronouns and that it’s never too early for self determination, adding the **Trans Pulse** finding that 59% of individuals are under the age of 10 when they first become aware that their gender does not match their body. We are grateful to Rogue for joining us to

the 2018/2019 school year



We are currently accepting requests for the 2018/2019 school year for Before and After School and PA Day programs. At this time, you may confirm your child's space for the upcoming school year and add/cancel programs. Please log in to your parent profile at www.plasp.com by March 9th, 2018 to submit your confirmation and change requests. We will process all requests received by this date by the end of May 2018. The status of your request will be emailed to you at that time. Please ensure that your email address on file with PLASP is up to date.

Updated fees for the 2018/2019 school year will be available in April. Please click [here](#) to review the PLASP cancellation and refund policy.

Register now for the 2018 summer camp season



Registration is currently open for the 2018 summer camp season, operating this summer from July 9th until August 17th. Camps are

have this very important conversation. For more information on the work that Rogue is doing, visit The 519's website [here](#).

PLASP participates in community parades – and receives first runner up for the Brampton Board of Trades Chairman Award



PLASP participated in three community Santa Claus parades this winter – in Brampton, Mississauga and Etobicoke. This year, we were excited to share with our friends and families our new boy and girl mascots and our parade float, that our staff worked really hard on preparing. We're thrilled to share that the PLASP float was selected as the first runner up for the Chairman's Award for the 2017 Brampton Board of Trade Santa Claus Parade! It is an honour to have been selected. The parades are a highlight of the year for many of our staff that participate and we are grateful to our friends and families that came out on those days to support us.

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offered in six one-week programs and operate from 7:30am-6:00pm, at select locations. Locations are subject to change. For more information or to register, please click [here](#).

Space available in select March Break locations – for kindergarten and school age children



Space is still available in select March Break camps in Mississauga, Brampton and Toronto. This program will operate from March 12th-16th, 2018 from 7:30am-6:00pm. For more information or to register, please click [here](#).

Tax receipts available in February by email and online for download

Tax receipts will be emailed and uploaded to your family profile in February. We will send you an email once your tax receipt is available. You will be able to download your tax receipt online at www.plasp.com. Tax receipts from previous years are currently available. For more information on how to download your tax receipt, please click [here](#).

During severe weather conditions – if schools close, PLASP programs will also be closed



If you have any questions for PLASP, we have staff across the organization who can help. You are always encouraged to speak with your Program Director with any questions or concerns. You can do this by calling and leaving a message at 905.890.1711 and entering your program's assigned extension. This extension can be found on posters in your child's program, a business card that your program director can provide to you or by logging into your parent profile at www.plasp.com.

Our Parent Services team can be reached at 647.484.4372 (toll free: 1.888.739.4102) between 7am to 6 pm, Monday to Friday, with the exception of statutory holidays.

Still have questions? Please contact the PLASP head office and your question will be directed to the appropriate staff to assist you. In situations that may require more support, the Program Director may involve the Area Manager, Regional Manager and Vice President, Operations.

For more information on who to contact, please click [here](#).

Follow us online





Be sure to follow us on our [PLASP blog](#), [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), and [YouTube](#) where we'll be sharing updates and photos from PLASP special events and program visits throughout the school year.

In the event of severe weather conditions, please monitor your local radio/TV stations or your school board's social media sites for announcements on school closures and bus cancellations.

If school boards announce school closures, PLASP programs at these schools will also be closed. This includes the Early Learning and Child Care Centres operating within the school board. Please keep your contact information up to date as we will notify you of school closures by:

- Telephone
- Email
- Website – www.plasp.com
- Social media – [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#)
(click on either to follow us)

If staff are unable to reach you, they will make every effort to arrive at the school to notify you of the closure.

New policies available online – Sleep Supervision and Playground Safety



Two new policies have been added online as a resource for parents. The Playground Safety Policy and the Sleep Supervision Policy can both be found at www.plasp.com under the Parent Handbooks and Policies tab under the Programs section. Our policies outline what you can expect from PLASP and our staff while your child is in our care. We encourage all families to become familiar with the PLASP Parent Handbooks and policies.



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This e-mail is being sent on behalf of PLASP Child Care Services (www.plasp.com).

It is PLASP policy to communicate primarily through e-mail.

From time to time, we will send you e-mails regarding additional or new programs, services, or events offered by PLASP. It is PLASP policy to only send commercial e-mails of interest and value to the parents of children in PLASP's programs, and only when necessary to do so. PLASP does not send e-mails promoting the services or goods of third parties.

If you do not wish to receive these types of e-mails, you can unsubscribe from PLASP's commercial mailing list by clicking "Unsubscribe" above. Please note that for the safety of your children enrolled in PLASP programs, you cannot unsubscribe from operational e-mails regarding your children or their programs.

For more information about PLASP's privacy or anti-spam policies, please contact PLASP at privacyofficer@plasp.com or 905.890.1711. You may also contact PLASP by mail at:

**PLASP Child Care Services c/o Privacy Officer
60 Courtneypark Drive West, Unit 5**