

# CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

## TODDLER CLASS

### ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE

- ☺ to promote independence  
to enhance eye-hand co-ordination
- ☺ to encourage responsibility
- ☺ to develop a sense of belonging - "My Cubby"

### SHELF TOYS AND PUZZLES

- ☺ to develop communication skills, social skills and co-operative skills
- ☺ to enhance and promote imaginative play
- ☺ to enhance fine motor skills when manipulating the different puzzle and toy pieces
- ☺ to develop thinking skills and problem solving techniques
- ☺ to promote and enhance sharing and turn taking

### CIRCLE

- ☺ to develop and enhance listening skills and attention span
- ☺ to develop an appreciation of books
- ☺ to promote verbal skills
- ☺ to develop thinking and co-operative skills

### PLAYROOM-CREATIVE ACTIVITIES

- ☺ to develop an awareness of colour, design and texture
- ☺ to increase ability to concentrate
- ☺ to develop self expression and imagination
- ☺ to allow the child to experiment through process, rather than product
- ☺ using a proper pencil grip with crayons is the first step to printing and writing
- ☺ introduction to different media

### SENSORY

- ☺ to help a child to explore the environment using his/her senses  
i.e. touch, sight, smell, taste, hearing
- ☺ to develop social skills through sharing and co-operation

## COGNITIVE

- ☺ to enhance skills such as: classifying, size discrimination, sequencing, colour and number concepts, and **THINKING SKILLS**

## DRAMA ROOM

- ☺ to promote and enhance imaginative skills
- ☺ to develop communication skills with the children and teachers in the different rooms
- ☺ to enhance and promote a sense of trust and belonging with the teachers from the other classrooms

## MUSIC

Daily musical activities are carefully designed to help the children develop motor, auditory and rhythmic skills. Group participation, imaginative expression and building of self-esteem are naturally incorporated into the musical experience. Unique songs, school wide music circles and day-to-day programming provide endless opportunities for fun and laughter. Our music team provides a fun and stimulating music experience for everyone in our Hillcrest family.

## OUTDOOR PLAY

- ☺ to promote and enhance gross motor skills (large muscle)
- ☺ to gain confidence with control of body parts when using the equipment
- ☺ to promote dramatic and imaginative play
- ☺ to release energy and have FUN

## LETTER RECOGNITION

- ☺ introducing the letters of the alphabet throughout the year during our various theme-related playrooms
- ☺ learning letters and their sounds

## LIBRARY TIME

The book centre is a quiet area for reading and relaxing. The children are able to:

- ☺ enhance their imagination
- ☺ enhance their concentration skills
- ☺ develop their appreciation for books

## SCIENCE

- ⊙ develop their curiosity of the world around them and how things work
- ⊙ develop cause and effect skills
- ⊙ expose them to tactile objects
- ⊙ learn about all of their senses

## JEWISH HERITAGE PROGRAM / HEBREW

The children celebrate Shabbat (the Sabbath) every Friday. You are welcome to join in this special time with your child. Please contact your child's teacher to arrange a mutually agreeable date. Jewish holidays are introduced and celebrated through storytelling, songs and creative activities. Our regular newsletters and communications will advise you of all our special events.

During the weekly Hebrew program, the children are encouraged to speak the language through games, songs, repetition and by labelling many visual props. The children will learn Hebrew names for the Jewish holidays and their symbols. They will also acquire an everyday, basic vocabulary, such as greetings, people in the family, body parts, seasons, gender, colours, counting and more!

## SEE SAW APP

We are happy to have incorporated "SEE SAW" into our program. It is an app that is downloadable to any smart phone, where teachers post photos and classroom news. It helps to keep you informed of the fun activities that take place during the school day, and enables teachers to share important and general information with you!