



MEDIA RELEASE

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Parenting and Family Literacy Centres Open April 2

Brantford ON: On April 2, the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board and Grand Erie District School Board will welcome families in one of four new Parenting and Family Literacy Centres (PFLCs), two located in each board of education.

"The Parenting and Family Literacy Centres are places for parents to gather information, meet parents in the community and form friendships," said Barb Mitchell, PFLC Coordinator for the two boards. "It's a place to celebrate the joys of parenting."

The Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board will open two sites at **Christ the King Catholic Elementary School** and **Jean Vanier Catholic Elementary School**. In Grand Erie District School Board, two sites will open at **Major Ballachey Public School** and **Princess Elizabeth Public School**.

The PFLCs will welcome all parents/caregivers who are caring for children ranging from newborn to age six. The goal of this program is to promote positive parent-child interaction, as well as to engage parents/caregivers and children in play-based early literacy and numeracy activities that will help prepare children for a successful start at school.

All PFLCs will be open in the mornings for fun-filled programs. The daily program will include a snack, free play, and family gathering time, which will offer a variety of favourite songs, rhymes and stories, and creative activities that will build on children's natural curiosity.

"Parents are children's first and most important teachers, and together the Centres offer a place where everyone is welcome to play and learn," said Leslie Telfer, Superintendent of Education for the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic District School Board.

Brenda Blancher, Superintendent of Education for the Grand Erie District School Board, said, "We look forward to welcoming families with young children to the Parenting and Family Literacy Centres. They are a great way to engage families by involving them in their child's early education."

Parenting and Family Literacy Centres do not require pre-registration to attend the program. A free book will be provided to parents at their first visit.

For information about the Parenting and Family Literacy Centres, contact Barb Mitchell 519-720-5149.

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