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Northalta 2020 Year End Message

2020 has been a year like no other!

Northalta acknowledges the efforts of Educators to keep family day homes healthy and enjoyable for the children. We appreciate how families have adapted to the changes COVID-19 caused to day homes. While this unprecedented time has been challenging, it has also presented opportunities for some. We are grateful for the trust between educators, families and Northalta staff.

Northalta looks forward to 2021.

*We are confident, that together, we can manage whatever it brings us.
On behalf of the Northalta staff, we wish everyone a healthy and prosperous 2021.*

Remember to include the children when you donate to a charity. It is an opportunity to show and share the importance of community support.



Santa's Anonymous

The mission of 630 CHED Santa's Anonymous was inspired by a simple wish: to see every child receive a new toy at Christmas. Throughout the years, the staff at 630 CHED and volunteers from

our community have worked together to make this wish come true. For information on how to donate please go to <http://santasanonymous.ca/>

Adopt A Teen - Since 1999, Adopt-A-Teen has been providing a Christmas gift to less fortunate Edmonton teenagers. Today, Adopt- A-Teen spreads Christmas cheer to over 8,600 Edmonton teens aged 13-17. For information on how to donate go to <https://www.adoptateenedmonton.ca/>



Letters to Santa

Santa and the postal elves are busy this time of year responding to letters from children all over the world. It would be an exciting experience to help the children write letters to Santa and then wait to hear back!

Santa's address:

Santa Claus
North Pole
HOH OHO
Canada



Get a letter back: Include a return address in your letter and Santa will send you a letter back

Don't miss the deadline

Send your Santa letters no later than **December 10, 2020** to guarantee a reply before the holidays. Click on the Canada Post link below for more information
<https://www.canadapost.ca/cpc/en/our-company/giving-back-to-our-communities/write-a-letter-to-santa.page>



Educator's Birthdays

Iman G. Anu R. Alia A.

December 2020

Educator's Anniversaries

Swati D. 2 yrs. Ritu G. – 4 yrs.
Shahida N. - 5 yrs. Jennifer L.- 5 yrs. Saima M. 5 yrs.



Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	
		1 Parent fees due	2	3 International Day of Persons with Disabilities Parents: Late fee applies to unpaid childcare fees	4	5
6	7	8	9	10 Hanukkah	11	12
13	14	15	16 Educator payment email sent	17	18	19
20	21 First Day of Winter Educator payment email due BY 9:00a.m.	22	23	24 Christmas Eve Northalta office closed (Confirm your Educator's hours)	25 Christmas Day Northalta office closed Approved Educator holiday	26 Boxing Day Kwanzaa
27	28 Day in lieu of Boxing Day Northalta office closed Approved Educator holiday	29	30	31 New Years Eve Northalta office closed (Confirm your Educator's hours)	January 1, 2021 New Year's Day Northalta office closed Approved Educator holiday	

Dates to Remember

December 3rd - International Day of Persons with Disabilities – The United Nations *International Day of Persons with Disabilities* is observed annually on December 3rd to promote the full and equal participation of persons with disabilities and to take action for the inclusion of persons with disabilities in all aspects of society and development. The theme this year is “**Building Back Better: toward a disability-inclusive, accessible and sustainable post COVID-19 World**”.

December 10th –December 18th - Hanukkah - The Hanukkah period lasts for 8 days. Hanukkah is a time for gift-giving and special events often include singing, drama, and entertaining activities involving the *dreidel*, which is a toy used for games.



December 21st - First Day of Winter (Winter Solstice) - The first day of the winter season is the day of the year when the Sun is farthest south.

December 25th – Christmas Day- Christians celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ at Christmas. It's a special time when children get presents from family, friends and Santa Claus, or Father Christmas.



December 26th - Boxing Day - Boxing Day is the day after Christmas Day. It is called "Boxing Day" because starting in medieval Britain, servants had a day off and would receive a gift box on this day.

December 26th – Jan. 1st - Kwanzaa is a holiday honoring the culture and traditions of people of African origin. It is celebrated by people from a range of African countries and their descendants. Kwanzaa consists of a week of celebrations, which ends with a feast and the exchange of gifts.

December 31st – New Year's Eve - New Year's Eve is one of the largest global celebrations because it marks the last day of the year in the Gregorian calendar, December 31, before the New Year.

CS File Review Visit - Northalta had a portion of their annual file review visit from CS (Children Services) in November. The Agency and chosen Educators are reviewed to ensure they are meeting Government of Alberta Family Day Home Standards. We are happy to announce we were in full compliance of the Standards.

Congratulations to the chosen Educators: Sahina A., Belen G., Navdeep G., Ritu G. Rosa K.

Day homes are a unique style of childcare in relation to the home environment, multi aged group and programming needs. We appreciate the ongoing commitment of our Educators in complying with the Alberta Family Day Home Standards.

Thank you for continuing to make family day homes a safe and healthy childcare choice.



2021 Approved Holidays for Day Home Closure

The following is a list of **day home closures**, approved by Northalta. Educators are not required to work on the following days:

New Years Day - January 1st, 2021
Family Day - February 15th, 2021
Good Friday – April 2nd, 2021
Victoria Day - May 24th, 2021
Canada Day - July 1st, 2021
Heritage Day - August 2nd, 2021
Labor Day –September 6th, 2021
Thanksgiving Day –October 11th, 2021
Remembrance Day – November 11th, 2021
Christmas Day - December 25th, 2021
Boxing Day - December 26th, 2021

Note: When an approved holiday is on a Saturday or Sunday, another day in lieu of the holiday may be taken. Educators and Parents will receive notice regarding the approved Educator day in lieu in the Northalta newsletter.

Looking for fun holiday activities for the children that include other traditions? Check out ***Scholastic, A World to Celebrate***. Showing the children traditions from other countries, opens their mind to different people and practices.



For fun activities and information, visit <https://www.scholastic.com/parents/family-life/global-awareness/world-to-celebrate.html>

Check out Crayola Crafts for fun holiday activities! <https://www.crayola.com/crafts/>

Hanukkah activities on Pinterest

<https://www.pinterest.ca/ncteacher100/hanukkah-activities-for-children/>

Kwanzaa activities on Pinterest

<https://www.pinterest.ca/pin/9851692924095683/>

