Holiday Newsletter

FAMILY MATTERS ACFRC
10 Middle Rd, Lawrencetown,
Nova Scotia, B0S 1M0.
✦
Phone (902) 584 2210
www.family-matters.ca



BUILDING HAPPY, HEALTHY FAMILIES! **Our office is open: Monday - Friday 8am - 3pm**

Family Matters - The Annapolis County Family Resource Centre is a non-profit organization in Annapolis County. Our Mission is to develop, co-ordinate & deliver programs, services & supports that are proven to promote the health & well being of children aged 0 - 18yrs and their families, guardians & caregivers in Annapolis County.

What's happening in Dec & Jan?!

Our December & January schedules are a little different to our regular term time programs so we are sending out 2 months together this time!

This year we are back to serving our full turkey dinner with all the trimmings at our Holiday Banquet @11:30am on Wed 16th Dec (FREE to attend but sign up required).

We also have Baking, Crafting, a Dance Party, Skating & more!

Sign up is required for events listed in blue on the calendar as spaces may be limited for some of these programs.

Call us on 902 584 2210 or message our FB Page to sign up.

Please note we are closed from Dec 18th to Jan 3rd. Our Office Re-opens Jan 4th 2027.

Family Matters team

Featured group

Had a baby in the last 18 months and want to meet other parents with littles? This month come and try one or both of our Baby Groups - **No Sign Up** required!

Program: Baby Group

For: Parents & Caregivers with their babies & toddlers up to 18 months

When: Every Tuesday afternoon from 1 - 2:30pm & every Friday morning from 9:30 -11:30am

Where: @Family Matters, 10 Middle Road, Lawrencetown

Moms, Dads, Caregivers and their babies up to 18 months old meet to relax & chat with other parents in the Baby room at our main Family Matters location in Lawrencetown.
Our baby room is set up with a wide variety of toys & equipment for all ages of littles to safely enjoy some playtime.

We have baby changing equipment, bottle warmers, comfortable seating & breast feeding pillows for parents to use as needed.

Each week has a different topic or activity.

Public Health drop in to either a Tuesday or Friday group once a month with information & to answer any baby questions you may have.



DECEMBER EVENTS

***Dec 1:** Junior Kindergarten 9:30 - 11:30am @FM Lawrencetown (Sign up required)

Dec 1 & 8: Baby Group 1 - 2:30pm @FM Lawrencetown

***Dec 2:** Bridgetown Create & Play Group - Paper Bag Puppets 10 - 11:30am @Bridgetown Library, 38 Queen St, Bridgetown (Sign up required)

***Dec 3:** Holiday Hullabaloo 10 - 11:30am @MacDonald Museum, 21 School St, Middleton

***Dec 3:** Fatherhood Matters 5:30 - 7:30pm @FM Lawrencetown **(Sign up required: Call Fatherhood Matters at 902 679 9350 or email coldford@fsens.ns.ca to sign up).**

Dec 4: Kim Ritchie (RN) coming to baby group 9:30 - 11:30am @FM Lawrencetown

Dec 4: Annapolis Royal Parent-time & Playgroup 10 - 11:30am @Annapolis Royal Library, 143 Ritchie Street, Annapolis Royal

***Dec 7:** Lawrencetown Parent Time - Holiday Baking 9:30 - 11:30am **(Sign up required)** @Lawrencetown United Baptist Church, 430 Main St, Lawrencetown

***Dec 8:** Family Skate 10 - 11:30am @Lawrencetown Exhibition Youth Arena, 590 Main St, Lawrencetown (Sign up required)

***Dec 9:** Middleton Create & Play Group - Festive Fun 10 - 11:30am @Middleton Library, 45 Gates Ave, Middleton. (Sign up required)





DECEMBER EVENTS

*__Dec 10:__ Holiday Crafts 10 - 11:30am @MacDonald Museum, 21 School St, Middleton

__Dec 11__: Baby Group 9:30 - 11:30am @FM Lawrencetown

__Dec 11:__ Annapolis Royal Parent-time & Playgroup 10 - 11:30am @Annapolis Royal Library, 143 Ritchie Street, Annapolis Royal

__Dec 14, 15 & 17:__ FM Office open - No programs

*__Dec 16th:__ Family Matters Holiday Banquet 11:30am - 1pm __(Sign up required)__ @Lawrencetown Firehall, 549 Main St, Lawrencetown

__Dec 18 - Jan 1__: FM Office closed

JANUARY EVENTS

__Jan 4:__ FM Office Re-opens

*__Jan 5:__ Dance Party 10am - 11:30am @Paradise Community Hall, 10300 Hwy #1 (Sign up required)

*__Jan 7:__ Post Partum Re-Union 10am - 12pm @FM Lawrencetown

*__Jan 12:__ Family Skate 10 - 11:30am @Lawrencetown Exhibition Youth Arena, 590 Main St, Lawrencetown (Sign up required)

*__Jan 18 & 25:__ Tasty Tales 9:30 - 11:30am (8wk program) @Lawrencetown United Baptist, 430 Main St, Lawrencetown (sign up required)

*__Jan 19 & 26:__ Junior Kindergarten 9:30 - 11:30am @FM Lawrencetown (Sign up required)

__Jan 19 & 26:__ Baby Group 1 - 2:30pm @FM Lawrencetown

*__Jan 20:__ Middleton Create & Play Group - Song Sticks 10 - 11:30am @Middleton Library, (Sign up required)

__Jan 21 & 28:__ Middleton Playgroup 10 - 11:30am @MacDonald Museum, 21 School St, Middleton

__Jan 22 & 29:__ Baby Group 9:30 - 11:30am @FM Lawrencetown

__Jan 22 & 29:__ Annapolis Royal Parent-time & Playgroup 10 - 11:30am @Annapolis Royal Library, 143 Ritchie Street, Annapolis Royal

__Jan 27:__ Family Literacy Day Event 10 - 11:30am @Dr Frank W. Morse Library 489 Main St, Lawrencetown

***Sign up required for above programs in blue!**

Need a drive to come to our groups & events?

Limited FREE transportation may be available on request. Call our main office on 902 584 2210, message our FB Page or call/email Rebecca Dillman our transportation manager at: 902 824 0085 or email rebecca.familymatters@gmail.com





Parent Time Play Groups

Parents & Caregivers meet together for parenting advice, crafts, guest speakers, coffee and more while children are cared for in a play based environment and enjoy playtime, art, healthy snack, story time & more! FREE to attend & no sign up required.

Annapolis Royal Parent Time & Playgroup: Friday mornings from 10 - 11:30am @Annapolis Royal Library

Lawrencetown Parent Time & Playgroup (See Calendar for details): Monday Mornings 9:30 - 11:30am @Lawrencetown United Baptist Church, 430 Main St, Lawrencetown or FM Lawrencetown.

Parent/Caregiver & Baby/Child Interactive Playgroups

Join us at any of our parent/caregiver & baby/child interactive playgroups for playtime, art, healthy snack, story time and more. FREE to attend & no sign up required.

Create & Play!
Wednesday mornings 10 - 11:30am @Middleton Library or Bridgetown Library (alternating Wednesdays). Each week you and your children will learn and create a different educational activity together that you can take away to have fun with at home.

Middleton Playgroup
Thursday mornings 10 -11:30 @The MacDonald Museum, 21 School St, Middleton.

Baby Mother Goose
Tuesday afternoons 1 - 2:30pm & Friday mornings 9:30 - 11:30 at FM Lawrencetown. Moms, Dads, Caregivers and their babies (up to 18m) meet together to enjoy playtime, crafts, songs, rhymes, parenting discussions, occasional guest speakers, and more.

Registered Programs

***Please call us on 902 584 2210 or message our Facebook Page to register for these programs.**

Book Club
2nd or 3rd Monday of the month from 6 - 7:30pm at Family Matters, Lawrencetown.

Join us once a month for the discussion on last months book. Books are provided and childcare available on site.



Jr. Kindergarten Kids
Tuesdays 9:30-11:30am at Family Matters, Lawrencetown

A registered program for children starting pre-primary or primary in Fall 2027. They will enjoy a play based learning environment with stories, songs, crafts, games and more. Childcare is available for siblings and parent time program for moms and caregivers.



Family Matters Services

Ongoing as needed throughout the year

Lending Library
Come visit our main location or ask staff about our children's books, toys, resources and breast pump lending opportunities.

Car Seat Technicians
Need help installing a car seat? Want your car seat checked to make sure it is installed properly? Contact Rebecca, Ayla or Fiona to help you out at 902 584 2210 or message our FB page.

Mother Hubbard's Cupboard
Our community cupboard has moved off site. We have clothing, diapers, food & other baby items available. Open by appointment on Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays from 11am - 2pm. Call us or message our FB page to set up a time to visit. If you have anything that you would like to donate please check with staff.

Parenting Journey
Parenting Journey home visitors visit families in their homes (as requested by families) and offer support in the following areas: child/youth well being and development, parenting, family life management and community connectedness, linkages and referrals.

Drop in Play
@ Family Matters when playroom is available. Need a change of scenery? Just want to get out of the house. Drop in to Family Matters playroom for some playtime. Call ahead to make sure playroom is available.

Need to get in touch?



Contact us by email:-

Miss Denise:
denise.familymatters2018@gmail.com
Miss Billie Jo:
billiejofamilymatters@gmail.com
Miss Jen:
jencfamilymatters@gmail.com
Miss Penny:
penny.familymatters@gmail.com
Miss Ayla:
aylamedicraft.p.j@gmail.com
Miss Rebecca:
rebecca.familymatters@gmail.com
Miss Fiona:
fiona.familymatters@gmail.com
Miss Paige:
paige.familymatters@gmail.com
Miss Colleen:
fhccfmannaco@gmail.com
Miss Katharine:
fhccfmlunco@gmail.com
Mr. Jonathan:
bookkeeperfm@gmail.com

Family Home Child Care Agency

Do you love working with children? Want to stay home with your children? Family Home Childcare is currently recruiting care providers!

Family Home Childcare gives you the opportunity to be self employed and work from the comfort of your own home by caring for children in the safe, healthy, home based environment that you create.

What are some of the Benefits of being a Regulated Family Matters Home Child Care Provider?

• Being 'approved' allows families peace of mind that you meet established standards through regular monitoring.
• Expenses are eligible to claim on income tax
• Approved providers can provide ALL families with fee reductions and subsidy to those who qualify
• Most equipment needed for approval is lent FREE of charge by the Family Home Childcare Agency.
• Resources & support from our Family Home Childcare Consultant
• Grants - Most start up costs can be helped through grants for: First Aid/CPR Level C, grocery start up etc.
• You set your own fees, hours, policies & daily routine!

Find more info at:-
www.familyhomechildcarens.ca

Family Home Child Care Providers

Going back to work? Need child care? Get in touch with our consultant to find an approved home in both Annapolis & Lunenburg Counties.

All Family Matters Homes Child Care Homes are supported by our consultants.

- For Annapolis County enquiries call Colleen Jodoin on 902 824 4249 or email: fhdcfamilymatters@gmail.com
- For Lunenburg County enquiries call Katharine Wile on 902 521 2757or email fhccfmlunco@gmail.com

Family Matters - Family Home Child Care
Learn. Share. Laugh. Grow

December 2026

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday / Sunday
	1 ***Junior Kindergarten** 9:30 - 11:30am @FM Lawrencetown (Sign up required) **Baby Group** 1 - 2:30pm @FM Lawrencetown	**2** ***Create & Play - Paper Bag Puppets** 10am - 11:30am @The Devenney Room, Bridgetown & Area Library, 38 Queen St, Bridgetown	**3** ***Holiday Hullabaloo!** 10 - 11:30am @MacDonald Museum Parking lot, 21 School St, Middleton ***Fatherhood Matters - Ice Cream Making!** 5:30 - 7:30pm @FM Lawrencetown (Sign up required - Call Fatherhood Matters at 902 679 9350 or email coldford@fsens.ns.ca to sign up).	**4** **Baby Group with Kim Ritchie (RN)** 9:30 - 11:30am @FM Lawrencetown **Annapolis Royal Parent-time & playgroup** 10 - 11:30am @Annapolis Royal Library, 143 Ritchie Street, Annapolis Royal	**5/6**
7 ***Lawrencetown Parent-time & Playgroup (Holiday Baking)** 9:30 - 11:30am @Lawrencetown United Baptist, 430 Main St, Lawrencetown	**8** ***Family Skate** 10 - 11:30am @Lawrencetown Youth Arena, 590 Main St, Lawrencetown (Sign up required) **Baby Group** 1 - 2:30pm @FM Lawrencetown	**9** ***Create & Play - Festive Craft** 10am - 11:30am @Middleton Library, 45 gates Ave, Middleton	**10** **Holiday Crafting!** 10 - 11:30am @MacDonald Museum, 21 School St, Middleton	**11** **Baby Group** 9:30 - 11:30am @FM Lawrencetown **Annapolis Royal Parent-time & playgroup** 10 - 11:30am @Annapolis Royal Library, 143 Ritchie Street, Annapolis Royal	**12/13**
14	**15**	**16** ***Holiday Banquet** 11:30am @Lawrencetown Firehall, 549 Main St, Lawrencetown	**17**	**18** CLOSED	**19/20**
21	**22**	**23** CLOSED	**24**	**25** **Christmas Day**  	**26/27**
28	**29**	**30** CLOSED **Schools Closed:** **Dec 21st 2026 to Jan 1st 2027**	**31** **New Year's Eve** 	**All programs are FREE to attend** **Sign up required** **Parent Time Playgroups** **Parent/Child Interactive Playgroups**	

January 2027

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday / Sunday
All programs are FREE to attend **Sign up required** **Parent Time Playgroups** **Parent/Child Interactive Playgroups** **All programs resume on 11th January 2027**				1 **New Years Day** 	2 / 3
4 **Family Matters Office Re-opens**	5 ***Dance Party** 10 - 11:30am @Paradise Hall, #10300 Hwy 1, Paradise (Sign up required)	6 ***Family Gym Night** 6:30pm - 8pm @LCS (Full info to come in January)	7 ***Post Partum Mental Health & Wellness Re-Union** 10am - 12pm @Family Matters Lawrencetown (Sign up required)	8	9 / 10
11	12 ***Skating** 10 - 11:30am @Lawrencetown Youth Arena (Sign up required)	13 ***Family Gym Night** 6:30pm - 8pm @LCS (Full info to come in January)	14	15	16 / 17
18 ***Tasty Tales Wk#1** 9:30 - 11:30am @Lawrencetown United Baptist, 430 Main St, Lawrencetown ***Book Club** 6 - 7:30pm @FM Lawrencetown	19 ***Junior Kindergarten** 9:30 - 11:30am @FM Lawrencetown (Sign up required) **Baby Group** 1 - 2:30pm @FM Lawrencetown	20 ***Create & Play - Song Sticks** 10am - 11:30am @Middleton Library, 45 gates Ave, Middleton ***Family Gym Night** 6:30pm - 8pm @LCS (Full info to come in January)	21 **Middleton Playgroup** 10 - 11:30am @MacDonald Museum, 21 School St, Middleton	22 **Baby Group** 9:30 - 11:30am @FM Lawrencetown **Annapolis Royal Parent-time & playgroup** 10 - 11:30am @Annapolis Royal Library, 143 Ritchie Street, Annapolis Royal	23 / 24
25 ***Tasty Tales Wk#2** 9:30 - 11:30am @Lawrencetown United Baptist, 430 Main St, Lawrencetown **Board Meeting 12:30pm** @FM Lawrencetown	26 ***Junior Kindergarten** 9:30 - 11:30am @FM Lawrencetown (Sign up required) **Baby Group** 1 - 2:30pm @FM Lawrencetown	27 ***Family Literacy Day** 10am - 11:30am @The Lawrencetown Library, Main St, Lawrencetown ***Family Gym Night** 6:30pm - 8pm @LCS (Full info to come in January)	28 **Middleton Playgroup** 10 - 11:30am @MacDonald Museum, 21 School St, Middleton	29 **Baby Group** 9:30 - 11:30am @FM Lawrencetown **Annapolis Royal Parent-time & playgroup** 10 - 11:30am @Annapolis Royal Library, 143 Ritchie Street, Annapolis Royal	30 / 31

FAMILY SERVICE NOVA SCOTIA
Child, Youth, and Family Learning Institute

Family Matters
The Annapolis County Family Resource Centre



ICE CREAM MAKING WITH DAD



OPEN TO DADS, UNCLES, MALE IDENTIFYING CAREGIVERS AND THEIR CHILDREN AGES 4+
JOIN US FOR AN EVENING OF LEARNING TO MAKE ICE CREAM AT HOME!

Thursday December 3/26

5:30pm-7:30pm

Family Matters

10 Middle road
Lawrencetown





Supper Provided!

Please register by December 1st

Contact Cindy at:
902-679-9350
coldford@familyservicens.ca

If transportation is a barrier assistance may be available

FAMILY MATTERS

HOLIDAY BANQUET

Get in the festive spirit and join us for a turkey dinner with all the trimmings!

DEC 16TH @11:30AM

(Sign up required)

@Lawrencetown Firehall,
549 Main St, Lawrencetown



Family Matters Presents

TASTY TALES

An 8 week program Starting Jan 18th from 9:30 - 11:30

@ Lawrencetown Baptist Church,

430 Main Street, Lawrencetown



This program is for Caregivers and one child. Each week caregiver & child will be cooking together based on a book each family will receive. Child care is available for siblings not in the kitchen & if you have more than one child that would like to cook - you are welcome to switch who is in the kitchen with you each week.

Please sign up by calling the office @ 902-584-2210 or message ou Facebook Page

