

Town of  
**Amherst Youth  
& Recreation**  
Department

**January - March 2020**

The Family Room is a play/learning environment for children ages birth-five, with their parents or caregivers.

We provide a clean, safe, and fun educational play area where children are encouraged to explore, experience, and engage.

To make it fun for all, please remember the following tools for the program...

- The Family Room is ONLINE FOR MEMBERSHIP, PLAYGROUP AND SPECIAL EVENTS REGISTRATION  
[HTTP://AMHERSTYOUTHANDREC.ORG](http://AMHERSTYOUTHANDREC.ORG)

\* It is your responsibility to "parent" your child  
Please supervise and encourage your child to play safely and appropriately with toys and other children.

\* We are an "ALLERGY AWARE" program  
Please keep all food and beverages in designated eating areas.  
Hand sanitizers are readily available.  
Please use them upon entering The Family Room or after eating/drinking.

\* Sick children and caregivers...  
please stay home!  
Keep germs away and let's play on a healthy day!

\* Please put all toys that have been drooled on or in a child's mouth in the disinfecting baskets!

\* All coats /bags must be placed on the hooks  
Please keep all personal belongings on you.  
We are not responsible for lost or missing items.

\* Changing tables are provided in the restrooms  
Please do not change your child anywhere else in the facility

\* Let's keep it fun for EVERYONE!  
Clean up after yourself and put toys back in their proper centers. It's a part of the learning process!

\* Please remember to sign up for ALL field trips and special events in order to participate!

**PLEASE REFRAIN FROM CELL PHONE USAGE**

We know things come up and you must answer your phone, but please refrain from prolonged usage. Safety and supervision are the first priority for ALL children in The Family Room

THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION  
IN FOLLOWING THE RULES AND HELPING TO  
MAINTAIN THESE VALUABLE TOOLS!



When the weather outside is frightful...you still have The Family Room to keep you warm with family fun!  
Check out **The Family Room...**

**NEW WINTER  
Open Door  
HOURS**

We will have lots of play time to offer and structured, learning time with our **PLAYGROUPS:**

**Toddler 101**  
and  
**FIT KIDS**

Pass this info along to your friends and family and don't forget, The Family Room is open to ALL families in WNY with children birth to 5 years of age.

ALWAYS check your calendar for field trips, special events, and room closings. Calendars are also available online at [www.amherst.ny.us](http://www.amherst.ny.us) keyword **FAMILY ROOM** or [amherstyouthandrec.org](http://amherstyouthandrec.org)

**Winter Weather  
CLOSING Policy**

In the event that winter weather is severe enough to close Amherst, Williamsville, or Sweet Home School Districts, we advise our families to stay home.

The Family Room is officially closed when the Amherst Youth and Recreation Offices are closed, a travel ban/advisory has been imposed, or when announced on TV Channel 2 and/or WBen 930AM. If you are unsure, give the office a call at 631-7132.

Thanks and stay safe this winter!



**OPEN DOOR HOURS**

**Monday**

9:30am -12:30 pm Harlem Road

**Wednesday**

9:30am -12:30 pm Northtown

**Friday**

9:30am -12:30 pm Harlem Road

**Saturday**

9:30am -12:30 pm Northtown

**PLAYGROUPS\***

**"Toddler 101"**

**Tuesday @ Harlem Road**

9:30-11:00 am 18 mos.-3 yrs.

**"Fit Kids"**

**Thursday @ Northtown**

9:30-11:00 am 18 mos.-5 yrs.

\*Playgroups are for registered participants. Please note the registration dates on your calendar.\*

**CONTACT INFORMATION:**

**Kristen M. Norton  
Mary Beth Hopkins**  
**CALL US:**  
Harlem Road 631-7218  
Northtown Ctr 631-7298

**EMAIL US:**  
[knorton@amherst.ny.us](mailto:knorton@amherst.ny.us)  
[mhopkins@amherst.ny.us](mailto:mhopkins@amherst.ny.us)



PAGE - FRIENDS OF THE FAMILY ROOM



THE FAMILY ROOM AMHERST

# PLAYGROUPS!!

## "TODDLER 101"

The Family Room offers **'Toddler 101'** for children 18 months - 3 years at Harlem Road on Tuesdays from 9:30 - 11:00 am. Your child will learn from many themes introduced each six week session through songs, music and movement, stories and arts & crafts. All that learning with YOU by their side! The first winter session's theme will be **"Playful Pets"** beginning on Tuesday, January 7th through February 11th. The 2nd session will be **'Community Helpers'** held March 3rd-April 7th.

**You MUST BE A CURRENT FAMILY ROOM MEMBER AND PRE-REGISTER to participate. REGISTRATION WILL BE HELD ONLINE DECEMBER 30th - JANUARY 7TH & FEBRUARY 17TH - MARCH 6TH at [WWW.AMHERSTYOUTHANDREC.ORG](http://WWW.AMHERSTYOUTHANDREC.ORG)**

## "FIT KIDS"

**'Fit Kids'** is essential for the child with lots of ENERGY! "Big Room" fun and structured gross-motor activities round out this musical, physical and recreational playgroup for children 18 months to 5 years, offered on Thursdays at the Northtown Center from 9:30 - 11:00 am. Perfect for those upcoming winter months! The next two, 6 week session will be held on Thursday, January 9th-February 13th and March 5th- April 9th.

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# FIELD TRIP TIPS!

## **PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED FOR PARTICIPATION**

Please note that **The Family Rooms are CLOSED on field trip days and special events.**

Check your attached calendars for all the upcoming fun, but for more specific information on our field trips, [read all about it!](#)

### Leaps N Bounce

Friday, January 17th 10:00 am

Bryant and Stratton Way, Williamsville

This is a fantastic indoor bounce facility with lots of fun for everyone! Can't beat the price either!! Be sure to have socks for the kids and yourselves. It's a great way for all of us to work off some cabin fever energy!

### Family Fun Sledding

Billy Wilson Park

Saturday, February 8th 10:00 am

1290 Hopkins Rd, Williamsville

Join us outdoors at Billy Wilson Park for sledding, snow, and fun for the **WHOLE** family! Dress for the weather!!

### "Mommy" & Me Yoga

Wednesday, February 12th 10:30 am

2 Wallace Ave, Buffalo, NY 14214

Partner with your child in simple animated poses, games, art, music and breathing exercises that help to strengthen coordination and build body awareness. We'll bark in downward dog, hiss in cobra pose and flutter our wings in butterfly, while we take a yoga journey that your child will never forget!

### We Rock the Spectrum!

Kid's Indoor Gym

Friday, March 13th 10:00 am

5427 Transit Rd, Williamsville

We Rock the Spectrum Kid's Gym was founded to provide a place for children of all ability levels. The unique gym equipment provides a variety of activity levels, and all children benefit and learn to grow and play together. Lots of fun for all!!

### Music Together with Miss Kristen

Wednesday, March 25th 10:00 am

Harlem Road Dance Room

We get to sing, dance, and make Music Together with our children! The Music Together program combines music, dance, instruments and educational tools for 45 minutes of bonding, learning and fun!



# THANK YOU DONORS!

The Family Room hosted its first "ART from the HeART" fundraiser in November and would like to thank our generous donors!

- THE ROCHE FAMILY
- MARY DIANA POULI
- THE CARDAMONE FAMILY
- BETTY'S MUSIC TOGETHER
- GLEN PARK TAVERN
- SORRENTINOS
- CHIC-A-DEES CORNER
- LAINY ROMA
- AMANDA LUCEY LMT
- KATIE FROOM
- HANNON HOMEMADE
- MONKEY SEE, MONKEY DO
- THE BLUE MOOSE
- MJ ROSE SALON
- THE MCNABB FAMILY
- SHERRY MARTIN SCHOOL OF DANCE



Congratulations to the winners!!

Special THANKS to all of the families who came out that day to create amazing art work and keepsakes!

**THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THE FAMILY ROOM!**

## SURVEY SAYS

The Family Room conducted a formal survey to assess our member's satisfaction of hours, activities, cost and more. Surveys were sent out via email in November and we would like to thank the members who participated and gave invaluable feedback.

Results have been evaluated and an overall desire for consistent hours at both locations, playgroup for infants and young toddlers as well as early evening Open Door hours have been expressed. The Family Room is considering all of these opportunities and will keep everyone updated!

We still need to hear from more of you so be sure to check your emails and send your response. Please help us to better serve the needs of growing and changing families. Submitted responses will be anonymous and confidential. The whole process will take a few minutes of your time but will provide the program with an abundance of information. Thank you in advance for your participation and cooperation.

# TOY CLEANING!

Tis' the season for cold and flu viruses and all the more reason we need **YOU** to volunteer to disinfect toys.

**PLEASE REMEMBER, WE REQUIRE EACH MEMBER TO DISINFECT TOYS AT LEAST ONCE DURING THEIR MEMBERSHIP!**

It only takes a couple of hours but gives us all the reassurance that our kids are playing in a safe and clean environment. Please fulfill your commitment.

**\*Check your calendar for dates and times. SPECIAL DAYS IN FEBRUARY DURING BREAK WHEN YOU CAN BRING THE KIDS TOO!**

**Be sure to check your email to volunteer at**



## WISH LIST!

Could you please help us restock our shelves with the following items?  
**CHECK OUT THE FAMILY ROOM WISHLIST AT**

**amazon.com**

### DISINFECTING WIPES

**BABY WIPES**

**BATTERIES**

**(AA, C, AAA)**

**ZIPLOC BAGS**

**(all sizes)**

**MAGIC ERASERS**

**SWIFFER WET JET**

**(CLEANING PADS**

**& SOLUTION)**

**PAPER PLATES**

**(LARGE & SMALL)**

**DISINFECTING SPRAY**

**Thank You!!**

