

The Prouty Voice

September 2016

Volume 11, Issue 1



Our Mission

The Winston Prouty Center for Child Development provides inclusive education and family support to promote the success of children and families.

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(802) 258-2413

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www.winstonprouty.org



Note from Chloe Learey, Executive Director

Family Matters: Transitions in Early Childhood Education

The start of a new school year offers a wonderful opportunity to think about transitions and adapting to change. Early childhood encompasses birth to age 8, and there are some significant transitions that happen in education during those years.

A key part of supporting and managing successful transitions is to acknowledge that it is happening, understanding the impact a transition can have helps you anticipate some of the feelings and behaviors that come along with the change, helping you to be proactive. While each situation is different, you can think about what's been successful in previous transitions and develop ideas for how that might be applied to the current change. Some people like to know what is coming far in advance, while knowing too much ahead of time can make others anxious. This can be especially tricky for children and parents when they have different approaches. A parent may be more casual and laid-back, not realizing their child needs to know the plan ahead of time in order to feel most comfortable. There's always learning in the give-and-take between different styles.

As fall approaches, some children (6 weeks to age 4) will be starting an early care and education program. Perhaps it is the first time a child will be away from their parents and around other children on a regular basis. Some aspects of this transition to consider include: Does your child need a few visits before starting a full schedule? Do you need a few visits as a parent? Keep in mind that you can expect on-going change. Your child may quickly adapt to going to a new place, running off to play with friends, when suddenly one morning there are tears and clinginess at drop-off every day for a week. Sometimes we have to be detectives trying to solve what is wrong, and sometimes we have to be cheerleaders, offering support and encouragement. Keeping in mind how the transition might be playing into situation can help us know how to respond.

A significant change that can happen in early childhood in our region for children with a developmental delay is the transition from early intervention (from birth to age 3) to early childhood special education (from age 3 to 5). There is formal "Transition Planning" to support this transfer of services from the early intervention provider to the school district, and an active team to work with the family to ensure it goes as smoothly as possible.

Another major transition that happens in early childhood is the move to kindergarten. It is a rite of passage in our culture, the move to "school." Even though play-based education for infants, toddlers and preschoolers is, in fact, developmentally appropriate education that creates the foundation for future success, kindergarten still signifies 'real' school, partially because it's when education becomes an entitlement for the general population. There's some great resources available to help prepare, including an article from the National Association for the Education of Young Children (<https://families.naeyc.org/learning-and-development/child-development/transitioning-kindergarten>), and a booklet published in Vermont called "Off to Kindergarten" and available on-line (<http://www.csdvt.org/ums/Welcome%20to%20Kindergarten/Off%20to%20Kindergarten%20booklet.pdf>).

Remember, when a transition happens, everyone in the family is experiencing it in one way or another. Awareness of the transition, reflection about what is going on, and being thoughtful in responding can help set everyone up for success.

Administration

802-257-7852

Chloe Learey	Executive Director	Ext. 301	chloe@winstonprouty.org
Lisa Whitney	Director of Operations	Ext. 302	lisa@winstonprouty.org
Bridget Goodell	Operations Assistant	Ext. 304	bridget@winstonprouty.org
Paula Schwartz	Development Assistant		paula@winstonprouty.org
Mike Curtis	Assistant		

Wish List

- *Highchair or Booster Seat with Tray
- *Baby Carriers/Slings
- *Infant Swings
- *Bassinets
- *Boppy Pillows
- *Booster Seats
- *(not new) Towels!
- *Baby Mirrors
- *Baby Beds (for toy dolls)
- *Rhino Balls

Important Number to Note!

Please note that if you need immediate assistance after the office is closed, and the classroom isn't answering their phone, please call the ELC cell phone at **802-246-7852**. This rings to a cell phone that the ELC Staff brings with them onto the playground in the afternoons.

ELC Lead Teacher

Looking for a full-time, enthusiastic team player to join the ELC as a Lead Teacher. Qualifications include a Bachelor's degree or higher, and early childhood teaching experience. Vermont Early Childhood Education licensure preferred.

Interested candidates should send a letter of interest, resume and names of three references by September 30, 2016 to:

Kim Paquette, ELC Program Coordinator
 The Winston Prouty Center
 209 Austine Drive
 Brattleboro, VT 05301
kim@winstonprouty.org
 Fax **802-258-2413**
 EOE

Assistant and Per Diem Teachers

We are always interested in adding fun and dedicated early educators to our team!

We are looking for Part-time Assistant Teachers, who can work in the afternoons. We are also looking for Per Diem teachers, who don't have set schedules and may be needed on short notice.

Please see our web site for more details.

Board of Trustees

David Dunn (President)
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Rachel Henry
 Frederic Noyes
 Thea Lloyd
 Scott Lyford

Management Team

Chloe Learey, Executive Director
 Lisa Whitney, Director of Operations
 Alison Wheeler, CIS Coordinator
 Mary Coogan, Early Interventionist
 Kim Paquette, ELC Program Coordinator
 Sara Lovell-Allbee, Education Consultant

Community Page

If you know of an event that may be of interest to the Prouty community, please email paula@winstonprouty.org with details. Thanks!

Campus Update:

Holton Hall: Several new tenants are moving into offices on the second floor, including the Brattleboro Area Prevention Coalition, some staff from HCRS, people who work in early childhood from BBF, Let's Grow Kids and Promise Communities, and a local architect. We are excited to have community partners join us on campus!

Many other interested people are looking at other available space on campus in Vermont Hall, the dorms and Croker Hall.

Disc Golf Course: We continue to look for ways to re-open the course in a way that works for everyone using the campus, and are hopeful about making that work.

Outdoor Adventure: Hilltop Montessori will be doing their annual fall program on campus for a couple days in September, and we are happy they continue to use the campus.



Photo Credit: Howard Weiss-Tisman/VPR

United Way's 2016 Day of Caring:

Winston Prouty is 1 of 11 Days of Caring volunteer projects!

Please sign up to help us organize our new space up on the Days of Caring web site:

http://unitedwaywindham.galaxydigital.com/aem/general/event/?doc_id=3155



Saturday, September 10th

9:00 am - 12:00 pm

**Breakfast - 8 am at The Elks
75 Putney Road**

River Valley Credit Union's 18th Annual River Valley Kids Fair:

Check out River Valley's 18th Annual Kid's Fair - a **FREE EVENT** featuring live professional children's entertainers, a circus theme with free BBQ, popcorn and cotton candy, Inflatable Fun amusements, a huge tent full of activities from local non-profits, all day demonstrations by Mad Science, Alejandro the magician, Wildlife Encounters and "On Her Majesty's Secret Circus" and more. It all kicks off River Valley's School Savings Program in local Vermont grade schools.

Saturday, September 17th

11:00 am — 3:00 pm

Brattleboro Common

Community Based Services (CBS) 802-258-2414

Lisa Adams	Developmental Educator	Ext. 224	ladams@winstonprouty.org
Kerri Beebe	Family Support Worker/Housing	Ext. 204	kerri@winstonprouty.org
Crystal Blamy	Family Supportive Housing	Ext. 201	crystal@winstonprouty.org
Emily Clever	Housing Resource Coordinator	Ext. 203	emily@winstonprouty.org
Mary Coogan	Early Interventionist	Ext. 209	mary@winstonprouty.org
Willie Gussin	Family Support Worker	Ext. 303	willie@winstonprouty.org
Kathy Hallock	Developmental Educator	Ext. 219	kathy@winstonprouty.org
Rebecca Krause	Maternal Child Health Nurse	Ext. 211	rebecca@winstonprouty.org
Brandy Levesque	Consultation & Education, ECFMH	Ext. 228	brandy@winstonprouty.org
Kellyn McCullough	Family Support Worker	Ext. 305	kellyn@winstonprouty.org
Sally Pennington	Maternal Child Health Nurse	Ext. 206	sally@winstonprouty.org
Megan Seidner	Early Interventionist	Ext. 226	
Joanne Shaw	Community Resource Parent	Ext. 208	joanne@winstonprouty.org
Alison Wheeler	CIS Coordinator	Ext. 213	alison@winstonprouty.org
Maura Shader & Jennifer Emerson CIS Early Childhood Family Mental Health (ECFMH)		Ext. 202	

News from Community Based Services

Community Based Services includes; Children's Integrated Services (CIS), Family Supportive Housing (FSH), and the Early Education Initiative (EEI). CIS is a resource for families when they have questions or concerns about their child's development during pregnancy, infancy and early childhood.

The CIS Systems team had an extended meeting on August 5th to discuss what we would like to measure in our region to know we are successful at CIS. Using the Results Based Accountability Model, we identified the Strengthening Families Protective Factors Survey and the Self-Sufficiency Matrix as tools to evaluate their use in more depth for measuring outcomes locally.

Tonya Kangas, Windham Child Care's Specialized Child Care Coordinator, shared at the CIS meeting that the income guidelines for child care subsidy are increasing, and more families will be eligible. Those already receiving subsidy will automatically have their subsidy adjusted according to their income. Families who applied previously and were slightly over-income should be encouraged to re-apply.

The Perinatal Wellness Initiative continues to meet. Jessica Greene will continue to do the Mother's Circle and may be expanding that work through HCRS.

We continue to interview candidates for the Early Intervention team and are hopeful about hiring soon.



If you have missed any of the videos for "Family Matters," you can catch up on www.brattleborotv.org, [youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com) or our facebook page.

If there is a topic you would like to see discussed on an upcoming episode please let us know!

Resources

State-wide community resources	Vermont 2-1-1	2-1-1	www.vermont211.org
Child care referrals and resources	Windham Child Care Association (WCCA)	802-254-5332	www.windhamchildcare.org
WIC	Vermont Department of Health	802-257-2880	www.healthvermont.gov
Mental health and substance abuse services	Health Care and Rehabilitation Services (HCRS)	1-888-888-5144	www.hcrs.org
Housing and other services for people in poverty	Southeastern Vermont Community Action (SEVCA)	802-254-2795	www.sevca.org
New Moms Network (Dawn Kersula, MA, RN)	Brattleboro Memorial Hospital	802-257-8278	E-mail: dkersula@bmhvt.org www.bmhvt.org
Local event listings and information	Parent Express	603-352-1234	www.sentinelsource.com/parent_express/

Early Learning Center

802-257-2101

ELC Program Coordinator

Kimberley Paquette

Ext. 306 kim@winstonprouty.org

ELC Administrative Coordinator

Angela Hoag

Ext. 210 angela@winstonprouty.org

Teaching Staff

Acorn Room (Infant): Nancy McMahon, Mandi Martin

Ext. 218 nancy@winstonprouty.org

Elm Room (EL1): Susan Heimer, Allie Barrett

Ext. 207 susan@winstonprouty.org

Maple Room (EL2): Amy Fulton, Mindy Brown

Ext. 205 amy@winstonprouty.org

Oak Room (EL3): Kim Paquette, Sarah Bemis, Lorraine Gilman

Ext. 217 kim@winstonprouty.org

Birch Room (EL4): Louisa Oakley, Kim Jacques, Alfred Hughes Jr.

Ext. 220 kim@winstonprouty.org

Floaters: Kathy Wright, Mare Lunderville, Lyn Call, Alyssa Kelly

Non-Teaching Staff

Liz Martin
Paul Rossi

Volunteers

Susan Mandell
Bob Peeples

Maple Room (Older Toddlers:) by Amy Fulton

The Maple room is off to a running start and I'm totally loving my role as lead teacher of the Maples. I am also very excited to introduce **Mindy Brown** as the new assistant teacher. The two of us will be guiding our newest group of children through routines and adventures, learning so many exciting things along the way. There are so many exciting things to do at the new campus that it's hard to choose! Our recent adventures include: woods walks, finding frogs at the frog pond, walking across bridges, finding pinecones and acorns, and running down the big hill. We also love our block, cars, trucks, dolls or babies, paint, crayons and markers. Every day is a new adventure and we are having a lot of fun!



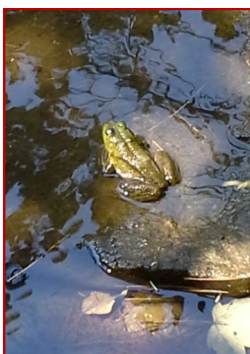
Elm Room (Young Toddlers) by Susan Heimer

The Younger Toddler Classroom (Elm Room) is happy to welcome new friends and families! For now, getting to know each other and enjoying our wonderful toys and books is our curriculum objective. As the children gain trust and a comfort level with us, we will introduce more structured activities, with a focus on motor and oral language development. Our daily walks, enjoying the variety of sights on the new campus, are a special highlight this time of year.





Summer Fun on the new campus!



September Happenings

Classical Music Month

Nat'l Learning & Development Month

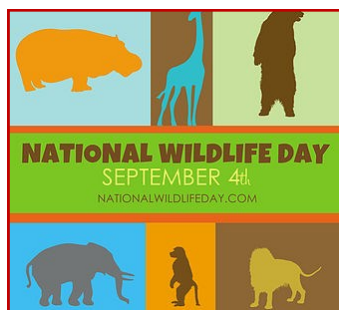
Baby Safety Month

Sept. 4th Nat'l Wildlife Day

Sept. 6th Nat'l Read a Book Day

Sept. 16th Nat'l Play-Doh Day

Sept. 22nd Autumn Begins



National Play-Doh Day!



Tuesday, September 16th



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2 Ryan is 3!	3
4	5 Center CLOSED for Labor Day	6 Jaxon is 5! Degan is 1!	7	8	9 Audrey is 3!	10
11 Giovanni is 2!	12	13	14	15	16 Happy Bday Emily	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26 Zane is 5! Jayda is 2!	27	28 Thomas is 3! Benjamin is 3!	29 Happy Bday Mary	30	

**Upcoming
Events:**

October 5th: Center CLOSES at 3:30 for All Staff Meeting