

The Prouty Voice

November 2016

Volume 11, Issue 3



Our Mission

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

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Note from Chloe Learey, Executive Director

....and family

The Board of The Winston Prouty Center recently voted to change the name of the organization by adding "and family," making the official name The Winston Prouty Center for Child **AND FAMILY** Development. While we realize people will likely continue to shorten to "The Prouty Center", and even just "Prouty", acknowledging family development as a key part of our work conveys the scope and intent of what we are doing.

I often say that no one should get into working in early childhood just because they like children – they need to like parents and families too. A child develops in the context of his or her family, and as one of our maternal child health nurses, Sally Pennington, often says "When a child is born, a parent is born, too." Parents are 'born' with a multitude of experiences and skills, some of which help them be well-prepared for parenting, and others which can be barriers to understanding what is happening as their child grows, and what they can do as parents to support their growth. Our job as early childhood professionals in 'family development' is to support families to understand their strengths, help them build their skills, and learn about their child with them so that optimal child development can occur.

In fact, we cannot separate our work with children from our work with families whether in the classroom or in the community. And, we cannot fully understand the development of an individual child without joining with their family or primary caregiver, learning what they know about their child, uncovering what meaning they are making of their child's behavior, and coming to a shared understanding of who the child is. One of our foundational approaches to working with children and families is Touchpoints. This offers a framework for understanding child development as a process, not just the achievement of developmental milestones. Touchpoints provides principles for partnering with families to come up with strategies about supporting their child's development, as well as assumptions about what we believe of parents and ourselves as providers. It promotes establishing authentic relationships with one another. "It is all about relationship" is one of those phrases which may get overused and is still absolutely true. If we cannot have a successful relationship with a family, we will not be successful in our work with a child.

A child's development happens within the context of their family. Part of the work in helping a family develop is to join them where they are, without judgement, so that we can learn about that context and offer tools that might help a family respond to whatever is happening. Often what brings us into a relationship initially is a challenge that has erupted. "My child just won't listen" or "I can't get my child to nap anymore" or "My child is up in the middle of the night wanting to play." Jumping right in with advice could potentially make the situation even more difficult because we would be missing important information a parent has to offer – information they may not even know they have! Asking questions to understand what meaning they make of their child's behavior, sharing our own observations, and bringing in information about developmental milestones is a process that allows a parent to further develop knowledge and understanding. This can lead to the co-creation of a plan to support that child and family through the messiness of life.

There is a technical term in early childhood – the messiness of life, which is accompanied by the joys and learning that comes with the messiness. This is the essence of what we do to help build the strong foundation that our children need to be successful in the world, and it requires us to be present and engaged with families as much as with children. By acknowledging families in our name we hope people will understand this critical aspect of the work that we do.

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 w/Tray
- *Gently Used Infant/Toddler Shoes
- *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.



Family Matters News

Last month Winston Prouty received BCTV's Community Partner Award for "Family Matters," which Chloe accepted on our behalf.

If you have missed any of the "Family Matters" videos, you can catch upon www.brattleborotv.org, 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!

Board of Trustees

David Dunn (President)
Sue Dyer (Vice President)
Jon Neurock (Treasurer)
Sarah Nohl (Secretary)

Rachel Henry
Frederic Noyes
Thea Lloyd
Scott Lyford

Management Team

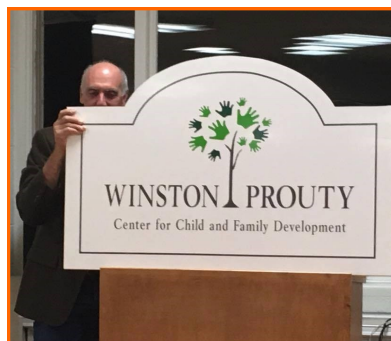
Chloe Learey, Executive Director
Lisa Whitney, Director of Operations
Alison Wheeler, CIS Coordinator
Mary Coogan, Early Interventionist
Kim Paquette, ELC Program Coordinator

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

On October 27th, we held our Grand Opening Celebration. It was an honor to have Senator Rebecca Balint, Town Manager Peter Elwell, and Judie Jerald from Save the Children speak at it! Thanks to everyone who braved the snow to help us celebrate our new location and name.



NECCA'S FALL SHOWCASE OF CIRCUS - November 5

**Join the New England Center of Circus Arts for a Showcase of Circus
Sat., Nov. 5th from 7:30 to 9:30 pm at the Austine Campus**

An evening of acrobatic and aerial circus acts by NECCA students followed by "The Canary's Silence," a production by Open Ring Circus. This production takes a look at the darkness we explore inside ourselves and our relationships. Featuring music composed for this small troupe of performers who use aerials, acrobatics, circus and dance to share with audiences things that have not been seen or heard before.

Tickets can be purchased at <http://circusshowcase.brownpapertickets.com>



38th Putney Craft, Food & Stage - Tour Thanksgiving Weekend: Nov 25, 26 & 27

Putney Craft Tour, Next Stage Arts Project and Sandglass Theatre join forces to present a special Thanksgiving Weekend of Arts. Area restaurants also participate by creating a Putney Craft Tour lunch or dinner "special." The tour also raises funds for the Putney Food Shelf. Meet 22 artisans, including blacksmiths, glass blowers, potters, jewelers, weavers, woodworkers – even artisan cheesemakers, a custom bicycle maker and winemaking. Putney Craft Tour is the oldest continuing studio tour in North America. Part of the fun is meandering through the beautiful Vermont countryside, following the map to find these prominent craftspeople and view the works where they are conceived and created. Visitors can start at The Gleanery, 133 Main Street, Putney for info, maps, and a preview exhibition of the artisans' works.

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
Ellen Ostrander	Early Interventionist	Ext. 227	ellen@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

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.

Mamapalooza, a parenting group for mom's with children ages 0-3, started its 5-week session in October. This is a collaboration between Youth Services, Winston Prouty and Early Education Services. The group meets on Thursdays from 4:30 to 6:30 at Prouty, and includes dinner provided by Youth Services. The second session, which was held on October 20th was informal, and the following three have a speaker (10/27, 11/3 and 11/10). The final session will be more informal with a thanksgiving-like dinner.

On October 17th, Kellyn, Kerri and Crystal attended an ARC training in Bennington. The Attachment, Self-Regulation and Competency (ARC) framework is a core-components treatment model, developed to provide a guiding framework for thoughtful clinical intervention with complexly traumatized youth and their caregiving systems. The training goal is that participants will: gain a basic understanding of how trauma impacts children developmentally and emotionally, gain a basic understanding of the ARC model, learn common trauma informed language, and learn key concepts and subskills that can easily be transferred into practice.

Shawn Lund is returning to her role providing Consultation and Education (C&E) for Children's Integrated Services beginning November 7th. Shawn previously worked with our ECFMH team through HCRS supporting parents and classrooms throughout our AHS district with behavioral interventions and parent coaching. In May 2016, Shawn left the team to take a position closer in proximity to her home town. Since Shawn's departure, the C&E position was transitioned out of HCRS and Shawn is being hired as a Winston Prouty Center employee. She will continue to work closely with the ECFMH clinicians, as well as the rest of the team.

CBS Wish List

There is a family that needs a queen bed frame and mattress. Please contact Kerri Beebe at Ext. 204 if you're able to donate any of these things. Thanks!

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): Kim Jacques, Alfred Hughes Jr.

Ext. 220

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

Luisa Oakley's last day as lead teacher in the Birch classroom was Oct. 27th. Even though you were with us a short time, both the staff and kids learned so many things from you and we'll all miss you a lot!

Non-Teaching Staff

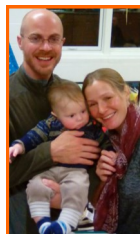
Liz Martin
Paul Rossi

Volunteers

Susan Mandell
Bob Peeples

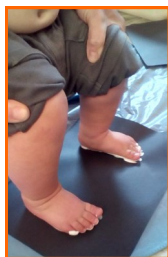
Acorn Room (Infants)

The Acorns have been together for three months now. These babies have grown so much in such a short time. We went from being newborns and stationary babies to babies on the move - rolling to crawling to standing - and yes, we already have our first walker! We have enjoyed the beautiful fall here on the hill. Our walks have been glorious. It will be sad to see the leaves fall, the ground freeze, having to take more time bundling up then being outside. So as sad as it is to see the fall pass us by, I am looking forward to more amazing growth and milestones this winter and to celebrate children with into the New Year!



Elm Room (Young Toddlers)

There have been some classic fall activities going on in the Elm Classroom, such as campus buggy rides to check the foliage and collect leaves, pumpkin painting, and baking apples. We did our first foot painting, little white "ghost" prints on black paper after sliding around in a tray of paint followed by our favorite part, the foot-washing in buckets of warm sudsy water. We have done orange color-of-the-month collages and color blending. We have also created orange goop, one of our favorite sensory projects! Our biggest news is welcoming our newest friends, Adrian, Autumn-Rose and Desi to the Elm Classroom!



Maple Room (Older Toddlers)

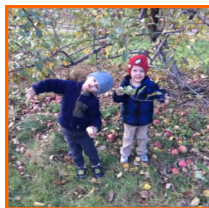
Our focus this month has been on the changes Fall/Autumn brings us such as, changing leaves, colder weather, and falling leaves, as well as fire safety, apples, pumpkins, costumes, and Halloween. The Maple room has been very busy learning routines, self-help skills, and play skills. A sample of what we have done this month is: a field trip to pick apples and pumpkins, made a fire truck, saw a fire truck, listened to two firefighters, painted with orange and black paint, finger painted, used scissors, measured water in the sensory table, went for walks, sang songs, sat in a circle and listened to songs, checked the weather, learned about feelings, counted to 20, and so many more things! We are planning a lot of activities for November with our focus continuing on fall, feelings, routines (or traditions), and family. We will be turning our fire station/ baby center into Grandma's house with a kitchen and dining room set up. We will add real canned and boxed food, mixing bowls and spoons, aprons, and hats. It will evolve with the children who come up with such wonderful ideas. We'll make a Thankful Wall, a special card, and book, paint with fall colors, and make pinecone feeders. We plan to have lots of fun and continue to learn more about our-selves in the process.



Oak Room (Preschool)

The Oak room had a wonderful visit to Green Mountain Orchard in Putney. We practiced using some gross motor movements such as running, climbing and pulling wagons full of apples and pumpkins. We saw some horses and a golden retriever dog came and played in the apple orchard with us. We had apple cider and donuts. We were so happy to serve apple crisp at the Open House on Wednesday, October 26 to our families.

Our class is looking towards November to learn more about balls and ramps. We used cars with the blocks to adjust the ramps to see how far the cars would go. We will be using more ramps in different capacities and will begin to introduce tunnels. We will all be Engineers at the end of the year! We have enjoyed the cold fall days and exploring the leaves around the school. Parent Teacher Conferences will be on November 10th and 11th. The teachers are looking forward to visiting everyone's home and getting to talk about everyone's progress. Next exciting thing to come: SNOW!



Birch Room (Preschool)

This month has been filled with so many interesting topics in the Birch room! We explored fire safety by playing the stop, drop and roll game and we made a giant firetruck out of a cardboard box. The students have been using their firetruck in dramatic play to cook for the firehouse and to put out fires. We also have been examining the changes happening during autumn. We explored hibernation and migration through movement during our circle routine. We visited Green Mountain Orchards and made some yummy treats from all the apples we picked. We created a pumpkin patch and apple orchard in our block area. We examined different shapes, triangles, rectangles and squares when making firetruck collages, jack-o-lanterns and firetruck cookies.



November Happenings

Nov. 1st: Nat'l Caregivers Day

Nov. 6th: Daylight Savings Time Ends

Nov. 7th: Election Day

Nov. 8th: Nat'l Parents As Teachers Day

Nov. 11th: Veterans Day

Nov. 23rd: Thanksgiving Day

Nat'l Adoption Month
Native American Heritage Month
Vegan Month



Fall Fun: Apple
Picking at Green
Mountain
Orchards



The Center closes at 3:30 on
the first Wednesday of each
month for Staff Meeting.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 Emily F is !! Happy Bday Mare CENTER CLOSED at 3:30 for All Staff Meeting	3 Happy Bday Sara	4	5
6	7 Happy Bday Nancy	8	9	10 ELC Closed for Parent Conferences	11	12
13 Happy Bday Bridget	14 Jeremiah is 4! Leah is 2!	15	16 Liam is 3!	17	18	19
20	21 Perry is 5! Rue is !!	22	23	24 Cortland & Payton are !! Center Closed for Thanksgiving Holiday	25 Alexander D is !!	26 Ayaan is 5! Ryleigh is 3!
27	28 Oliver is 5!	29	30			

Upcoming
Events:

December 7th: Center Closes at 3:30 for All Staff Meeting
December 23-30th: Center Closed for Winter Break